

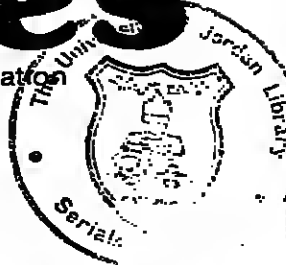
Brazil enters the nuclear age

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (A.P.) — Brazil officially joined the ranks of the world's nuclear-powered this weekend—but without the boldness and confidence that once caused the United States concern. The nation's first nuclear power station, called Angra 1, began generating small amounts of energy Saturday night. The start-up came after five years of delays and cost overruns and amid new questions about potential radiation hazards. The inauguration of Angra 1, located on a tropical beach about 90 miles west of Rio, was without the fanfare and official publicity usually given the opening of showpiece development projects by the military-controlled government.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدرها مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"



Sharon says Habib harms Israel

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon told a cabinet session Sunday that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib was tying Israel's hands and preventing Israel from "defending its citizens", Israel Radio reported. The radio quoted Mr. Sharon as telling a closed cabinet meeting that Mr. Habib's latest visit to the Mideast, meant to bolster a ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian commandos in Lebanon, had only harmed Israel. Mr. Sharon was quoted as saying that Mr. Habib had failed to show any achievements during his visit to the Mideast. The cabinet decided to call a special session to discuss Palestinian commando activity in Israel, a spokesman for Prime Minister Menachem Begin said. No date was set.

Volume 7, Number 1911

AMMAN, MONDAY MARCH 15, 1982 — JUMADA AL AWWAL 19, 1402

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

U.S. not ready for Mexican plan

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration is not likely to commit itself yet to a Mexican plan for settling Central American tensions over the guerrilla war in El Salvador, U.S. officials said Sunday. The plan was being explored at a second meeting within a week in New York on Sunday between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Mexico's Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda. U.S. officials said that while the administration wanted to give the proposal a thorough hearing, U.S. policy would probably remain unchanged before El Salvador's March 28 election for a constituent assembly. The plan of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo would seek to ease tensions in the region through separate U.S. talks with Cuba and Nicaragua, which are accused by the United States of aiding the Salvadorean guerrillas.

Warsaw Pact war games under way

WARSAW (R) — The Soviet commander of the Warsaw pact armed forces, Marshal Viktor Kulikov, met Polish military chief Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski here Sunday after pact war games got under way in northern Poland. The official Polish news agency PAP said the meeting was connected with the current seven-day manoeuvres, which involve Polish, Soviet and East German forces and which are the first in the East bloc since last December's military takeover in Poland. Marshal Kulikov was last reported in Poland a few days before the Dec. 13 takeover, fueling arguments in the West that the Kremlin virtually forced Gen. Jaruzelski to declare martial law.

Archbishop appeals for Walesa's release

WARSAW (R) — Poland's Roman Catholic Primate Archbishop Jozef Glemp Sunday appealed for the release of Lech Walesa, leader of the disbanded Solidarity trade union. The archbishop told a congregation of some 20,000 people at a workers suburb in Warsaw to pray for the release of Mr. Walesa, who has been interned and isolated since martial law was imposed in Poland three months ago. The primate said Mr. Walesa, a leader of the strike movement that gave birth to Solidarity, posed no threat to the authorities.

1 killed in Tripoli

BEIRUT (R) — One man was killed and two were injured in clashes between rival local groups Sunday in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, Beirut Radio said. The fighting ended when a joint security committee intervened, the radio added. The committee, drawn from local militias, was set up last month after three days of heavy fighting between pro- and anti-Syrian groups operating in the city.

Iraqi forces kill 45 Iranians

BEIRUT (R) — Iraqi forces said Sunday they killed 45 Iranians and wrecked seven trucks in the Gulf war on Saturday night and on Sunday, the Iraqi News Agency INA reported. INA said most of the fighting was near Dezful and Shush in the southern sector of the front in the 18-month-old war. The agency put Iraqi losses at nine dead and one truck destroyed.

Romanian president to visit China

VIENNA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, the only Soviet bloc leader maintaining normal state and party relations with Peking, will visit China in the second half of next month, according to an official announcement in Bucharest on Saturday. It will be his fourth trip to China since 1964 and takes place as the Soviet Union is extending conciliatory peace feelers to its Communist foes in Peking. Romania, often noted for its independent stance, also seems to be moving closer to Moscow because of domestic economic problems.

Former U.S. president offers to meet Arafat

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Former U.S. President Gerald Ford offered Sunday to meet with Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat on one condition. "Arafat has to recognise that such a meeting would mean an admission on his part that Israel would be recognised by him and his people," Mr. Ford told reporters prior to his departure after attending the first meeting in Kuwait of the Santa Fe board of directors, of which he is a member. If such a conference with Mr. Arafat were to materialise, Mr. Ford said he would be representing only himself and not the U.S. government. He expressed the belief that the PLO "should participate in any future negotiations (on a comprehensive Mideast settlement)" but said this was also contingent on "simultaneous recognition" of Israel by the PLO. Mr. Ford said that a comprehensive settlement, following

the April 25 deadline for the implementation of the U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace accord between Egypt and Israel, would be based on the November 1967 U.N. Security Council resolution on the Middle East. That resolution calls for recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and for Israel's existence within secure, recognised boundaries. On Lebanon, Mr. Ford called for national reconciliation and for the withdrawal of Syrian troops which he said "were occupying a significant part of Lebanon." He said "responsible government" should be re-instituted in Lebanon. On Kuwait's take-over of the Santa Fe Corp., Mr. Ford described this as "a responsible and constructive investment of \$2.5 billion." "No major roadblocks will be facing similar future investments" in the U.S., Mr. Ford said.

Tehran clergyman killed as Khaddam holds talks

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Assassins posing as a holy man and his bodyguards lobbed a bomb into the car of a prominent pro-government cleric in Tehran Sunday killing the victim and two others, the official Iranian news agency, IRNA reported. Also Sunday, Syria's foreign minister held a second round of talks with his Iranian counterpart, Tehran Radio said. IRNA said Hajjatoleslam Mohammad Salem Hosni, one of the leading clergy in the country's construction crusade, a volunteer organisation that builds roads and public utilities, and his two bodyguards were killed in a "terrorist attack on his car," in central Tehran.

The news agency, formerly called Pars, said the terrorists threw an incendiary device at Hosni's car and then fled in a get-away vehicle. The identity of the two guards is not yet known. "The attacks follows a series of terrorist attacks in the city by counter-revolutionaries mainly attempting to destabilise the government with these attacks," IRNA said. Leftist urban guerrillas have led an eight-month campaign of bombings and assassinations against the fundamentalist regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, which has left more than 1,000 Khomeini loyalists dead, according to officials.

Surinam's rulers appear to be firmly in control

PARAMARIBO, Surinam (R) — Surinam's leftist military rulers appeared to be firmly back in control of the country Sunday after crushing a coup attempt by right-wing soldiers and executing their leaders by firing squad. Army strongman Lt.-Col. Daisi Boutrose told a press conference that the rebel leader, Sgt.-Maj. Wilfred Hawker, was shot at dawn on Saturday after a trial.

But informed sources said there was doubt that the 28-year-old

sergeant-major ever appeared before a court. They added that Col. Boutrose was evasive in responding to questions about the trial. The colonel said in reply to a question that the trial began after the coup was launched on Thursday morning and that it lasted all day. He gave no further details. Sgt.-Maj. Hawker was captured on Friday after being badly wounded when loyal troops stormed Paramaribo's Memre Boekoe army barracks.

Time running out on solution to Sinai border dispute

TEL AVIV (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali arrives in Israel on Monday for talks aimed at resolving a border dispute which Israeli officials insist must be settled before next month's final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

Mr. Ali's three-day visit is primarily designed to determine the exact location of the border between the two countries, Israeli officials said. Within six weeks to go before the last Israeli must evacuate the peninsula, Egypt and Israel are still divided over just where the demarcation line should run at 15 points along the 230-kilometre frontier. Both sides say they have maps supporting their territorial claims along the desert border which separated the two countries until Israeli forces invaded Sinai during

the 1967 Middle East war. Israeli officials said the dispute must be resolved before Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai by April 26. Government sources said they expected a compromise to be found in time to avoid delays.

The line was established in 1906 by officials of the British and Ottoman empires. Israel and Egypt have produced old maps and accounts of the period to support their positions. The main problem involves the Taba area south of the Israeli Red Sea port of Eilat. Egypt maintains the line must run along a ridge near the coast while Israel insists the border cuts through a line of palm trees 600 metres to the west. The difference is significant because the narrow coastal strip is the site of a largely completed 10-storey hotel.



Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem (right) receives at his office Sunday British M.P. Ronald Moyle (Petra photo)

Ministers, British M.P. discuss Mideast situation

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem received at his office Sunday M.P. Ronald Moyle, a British opposition Labour Party spokesman on foreign affairs, who is now on a visit to Jordan. He arrived here Saturday. The foreign minister exchanged with Mr. Moyle views on the various international issues, particularly the Middle East. Mr. Qasem explained Israel's aggressive and expansionist practices against Arab rights and lands. He asserted that "Israel's belligerence and aggressive policy is the main reason for the failure to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the area."

Mr. Moyle, member of parliament for Lewisham East, called on Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, who briefed him on projects which have been implemented in Jordan and those under implementation, basically depending on Jordanian natural resources.

Mr. Moyle, who visited Jordan several years ago, expressed his admiration for the progress Jordan

has made in all fields. Mr. Abu Odeh also explained the situation in the occupied West Bank and Israel's policy of annexing lands there, as well as the various tactics it is following to apply this policy, whether by bringing in Israeli settlers to the West Bank or by setting up local leagues to pave the way for actual annexation of the occupied territories. The information minister said Jordan has shouldered its national responsibility by warning those involved in these leagues to withdraw from them or face penalties stipulated in the Jordanian law. He said the government has given them a period of grace to withdraw from these leagues because it realised that many of them joined these leagues without knowing their real objectives. President of the National Consultative Council (NCC) Ahmad Al Tarawneh also received Mr. Moyle on Sunday. They discussed the stand of the British Labour Party and that of the British government towards the Palestinian problem.

Colombians urged to vote

BOGOTA (R) — A trumpet call in Bogota signalled a start to voting Sunday in Colombian elections which leftist guerrillas urged the country to boycott. The election, seen as a test of civilian rule, was taking place against a background of furious political unrest in Colombia and some other Latin American countries. President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala appealed to the 14 million voters on Sunday night to throw off their traditional apathy and turn out. At stake are 9,000 seats

in national and local government. "He who does not vote has no right to criticise what he could have changed," the president told the nation. "Bad governments are elected by the good citizens who do not vote." Although Colombia has a strong history of civilian government, voting in recent elections has often been low. Tight security was in force as the trumpet blast in the capital's Bolivar Square opened 50,000 polling booths and troops frisked voters.

Qadhafi would go to U.S.

TRIPOLI, Libya (A.P.) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said he did not dismiss "a visit to America" as he expressed the hope another meeting similar to the one he had in Austria would be also held with all Western countries, the Libyan news agency JANA Sunday quoted him as saying. JANA said Col. Qadhafi made the remarks in an exclusive statement on his arrival here Saturday from a four-day official visit to Austria. JANA also quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying he did not rule out the idea of carrying out "other successful visits to Western European countries that serve European, Mediterranean and African peace, and develop economic and political cooperation with them."

JANA said without elaborating that Col. Qadhafi did not even dismiss "a visit to America." JANA also quoted him as saying that in talks with Maltese Prime Minister Dom Mintoff during his stopover at Valletta on his way home, an agreement was reached to refer "the continental shelf problem to the International Court of Justice at The Hague, as had happened in the case between Libya and Tunisia... the talk (with Mr. Mintoff) have returned matters to their normal course." JANA quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying his stopover in Malta "was the direct result of (Austrian Chancellor Bruno) Kreisky's mediation. This mediation had an important role of bringing about understanding with Malta."

West Bank leader starts Village League resignations

AMMAN (Agencies) — A member of an Israeli-sponsored Arah Village League in the occupied West Bank resigned Sunday following a warning from Jordan that it would bring treason charges against Palestinians associated with the leagues. The mukhtar (headman) of Dir Samit village in the Hebron region, Adnan Abdul Al Fatah, informed the regional league he had resigned because of Jordan's order last week to Palestinians to leave the village associations within one month. Jordan warned those who remained within the leagues with penalties ranging from death to confiscation of property. The head of the Hebron region league, Mustafa Dudin, told reporters he expected at least five members of the leagues, whom he termed fervent Jordanian supporters, to resign shortly. There are currently over 70 villages linked in five leagues. Israel provides large funds for development work and for the defence of members, whom it regards as more "moderate" than the mayors of the large West Bank towns who have declared their open support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Mr. Dudin said he did not believe the resignations were influenced by an unsuccessful murder attempt on Friday night on Fakhri Issa, a prominent supporter of the Ramallah area league. Three people were arrested by Israeli security forces for the attack and a curfew was imposed on Bitunya village. One of them was later released and the curfew lifted. Arah unrest continued on the West Bank on Sunday when Arah youths hurled stones at passing Israeli cars in the Palestine refugee camp of Deheisha on the main Bethlehem-Hebron road. Thirty residents, including two East Jerusalem Arab journalists, were arrested on claims of stone-throwing. An army spokesman said later that Israeli security forces had imposed a curfew on the refugee camp after stones were thrown at two passing buses. Five passengers had been injured by flying glass, the spokesman added. Here in Amman, the National Planning Council's (NCC's) West-Bank Affairs Committee Sunday discussed the subject of the Israeli-sponsored Village Leagues on the occupied West Bank. The session chaired by NCC member, Khaled Al Fayed was attended by Minister of Occ-

upied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim. The committee took certain decisions which will be referred to the council's regular session on Monday, an announcement here said. Meanwhile, Halhoul Mayor and member of the National Guidance Council in the occupied territories, Mohammad Milhem, has said that the Jordanian government warning to members of the "suspect" Village Leagues in the occupied West Bank is a firm and solid decision. Mr. Milhem was deported from his hometown, in the West Bank following Israeli charges that he sympathised with the PLO. In a statement to the newspaper Al Dustour, published Sunday, Mr. Milhem said that members of the Village Leagues who will not quit would be considered as committing the crime of high treason. The Director of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "Office in Amman, Najib Al Ahmad, said Sunday that reports received from the occupied territories affirm that the recent Jordanian decision against the Village Leagues has begun to have its positive impact on these leagues, and signs of division have already begun to appear in the ranks of these leagues.

PLO 'could' call on Soviet aid' if attacked

BEIRUT (R) — The editor of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) newspaper Palestine Al Thawra Sunday said the PLO could call on Soviet and Eastern bloc aid to turn an Israeli invasion into a disaster for the Zionist state. Editor Ahmad Abdul Rahman, who visited East Germany last week with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, said in a front-page editorial that any Israeli attack on Palestinian bases in South Lebanon would trigger enough Soviet and socialist support to break the back of Israeli superiority. Mr. Abdul Rahman said that superpower rivalry was bringing the PLO closer commitments from the Soviet bloc. He attributed the change in Soviet bloc attitudes to a feeling in Eastern Europe that tension in the Middle East was working in the interests of the United States.

Klibi in Iraq for Arab talks

BEIRUT (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi arrived in Baghdad Sunday on a short visit to Iraq, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported. INA quoted Mr. Klibi as saying on arrival he would hold discussions with Iraqi officials on the present Arab situation. In Beirut on Saturday, Mr. Klibi discussed with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis efforts to arrange a new meeting of the Arab League Follow-up Committee on Lebanon. He also met with Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan. Mr. Klibi told a press conference Saturday also that he discussed with the Lebanese leaders preparations for the next meeting of the Arab League sub-committee on South Lebanon on March 18. The Follow-up Committee, which groups Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, has twice postponed a meeting originally scheduled for January because earlier decisions have not been put into effect. These included a plan to set up a coastal supervision commission to prevent illegal arms imports for Lebanon's many militia groups. Mr. Klibi said Lebanon and the Arab League still planned to form the commission. "It's a matter of time," he said.

Expert says Beirut bombs also kill henchmen paid to plant them

BEIRUT (A.P.) — The only man in war-weary Lebanon who makes his living dismantling bombs was quoted Sunday as dismissing accusations that Israelis were responsible for planting explosions that have killed 30 people here since early February, but did not rule out Israel as behind them. "Israelis? If anyone tells you they're Israelis, tell him he's a liar," said retired army explosives expert Yusef Bitar in an interview with a weekly news magazine. The publication, Monday Morning, quoted Mr. Bitar as saying the latest rash of bombings has signs of particular cruelty — henchmen paid to plant the bombs are never told the devices will detonate in their hands, killing them along with the targets. Mr. Bitar said this means the persons behind the attack can save money. They pay the henchmen so much beforehand with the understanding the rest of the fee will be paid after the blast, Mr. Bitar was quoted as saying. The magazine reported Mr. Bitar also said this also silences the agent. The government says that since the start of the year, there have been 121 bombings in Lebanon, with 23 explosive devices dismantled by Mr. Bitar. Lebanese are nervously asking each other who might be responsible. Officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) blame agents of Israel and the rightists of East Beirut. Monday Morning reported that government authorities have a good idea of which groups are behind the blasts, but helpless to exert itself, the government has not publicly pointed fingers. "Oh God, who hasn't planted bombs in Lebanon?" the magazine quoted Sheikh Assad Germanos, the military prosecutor, as saying. "In the bomb that is used in every attack," Mr. Germanos was quoted as saying, "we can usually see the signature of the perpetrator." The Lebanese government is intact, but its authority to enforce laws was eroded by the 1975-76 civil war. The police and army, for instance, are simply outgunned by the more than 40 private armies that appeared after the war, along with the heavily armed factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Mr. Germanos said 319 people, almost all of them civilians, died in the 544 bombings in 1981. In the same period, 107 bombs were dismantled, Mr. Germanos said. Mr. Bitar was an army explosives expert until his retirement from uniform last year. He is the government's only expert on dismantling bombs. "I cover all bomb alarms in every part of Lebanon," the magazine quoted him as saying.

U.S. team starts Europe tour in Bonn

BONN (R) — A U.S. delegation led by Under-Secretary of State James Buckley arrived in Bonn Sunday on a mission designed to stiffen Western sanctions against the introduction of martial law in Poland. A spokesman for the American embassy said Mr. Buckley and five or six senior U.S. officials will hold talks with Foreign Ministry officials on Monday on the future of East-West trade and Western credits to the East bloc. Mr. Buckley will meet Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in mid-afternoon before the delegation leaves Bonn for talks later in the week in London, Paris, Rome and Brussels.

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NATIONAL

Talks with Tunisia start

Jordan, Sudan initial workers' pact

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Sudan Sunday initiated an agreement regulating the flow of workers between the two countries.

Under the agreement, the Jordanian Ministry of Labour and the Sudanese Ministry of Interior will exchange information and expertise and cooperate in the employment of labour in both countries.

They will also take measures to facilitate such employment and will grant workers the right to remit their earnings to their home country in accordance with regulations in force in the country of employment, the agreement states.

The two sides also set up a six-member committee—three from each side—to follow up the implementation of the agreement and to take proper measures to settle any issues that might arise in the course of the implementation of the agreement.

The agreement was signed by Labour Minister Jawad Al Anani and the visiting Sudanese Minister of State for Internal Affairs Mohammad Othman Abu Saq.

The Sudanese minister arrived in Amman Sunday morning after participating in the 10th Arab labour conference in Baghdad. He left for Jeddah Sunday evening on his way home.

Meanwhile, Jordan and Tunisia

Sunday held talks on labour-related affairs and ways to encourage the flow of workers between them.

The talks were conducted by Dr. Anani and visiting Tunisian Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Mohammad Al Nasser, who discussed means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in labour affairs and explored the possibility of supplying the Jordanian market with Tunisian workers.

Such workers will be employed

on projects contained in the country's five-year development plan which can absorb considerable numbers of Arab workers, a labour ministry spokesman said.

Tunisia and Jordan early this month initiated an agreement for the employment of Jordanian and Tunisian workers in both countries.

The Tunisian minister, who arrived here from Baghdad early Sunday left for Muscat in the evening.

Arab City Day observed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Municipality on Monday celebrates Arab City Day, held this year under the theme "the protection of the environment is a national duty of every citizen."

The municipality has prepared a special programme for the occasion which includes enlightening the public on the subject through notices and slogans and explaining the role of the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) in this field.

As a contribution to this effort Jordan Television will Monday evening telecast a speech by ACO's Secretary General, Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Adasani, in which he is expected to call for more cooperation among Arab cities to achieve further development and progress.

He is also expected to call for the preservation of traditional Arab and Islamic architecture and the employment of this art in planning Arab cities.

Mr. Adasani will also announce that ACO will be awarding special prizes for distinguished architectural works and he will also review ACO's achievements and its relations with Arab and international organisations.

Also on the occasion Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni Sunday exchanged cables of good wishes with mayors of other Arab cities.

Meanwhile, Irbid Municipality announced that it will organise a public seminar and an open dialogue to mark ACO Day and Irbid municipal council's second anniversary.

A WORD OF THANKS

The Khouri and Farah families and their relatives in Jordan, occupied Palestine and Lebanon would like to extend a word of thanks and appreciation to all those who presented their condolences on the death of the late:

George Saleh Al Khouri

father of Riyad, Rami, Yasmine, and Raghida.



Minister of Labour Jawad Al Anani (right) and Sudanese Interior Minister Mohammad Othman Abu Saq (centre) initial an agreement on workers here Sunday. Looking on is Sudanese Ambassador in Jordan Ahmad Mohammad Diab. (Petra photo)

Early warning system tenders opened Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — Tenders submitted by 58 local and foreign companies to implement the early warning system project will be opened on Monday at the Civil Defence Directorate.

As part of the participation of the Jordanian industrial sector in implementing the project, a local tissue paper firm contributed JD 2,000, while a Jordanian alu-

minum manufacturer gave JD 2,000, including JD 1,000 in cash and JD 1,000 worth of the materials produced by the plant. A timber manufacturing company also contributed JD 1,000.

Sources at the Civil Defence Directorate said that the total cash and kind contributions for the project now total JD 229,000.

Jordan Dairy Company wins international trophy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A local firm has been awarded an outstanding international trophy for quality which has placed it on an impressive list including several world-famous industrial concerns.

The Spanish publishing house Editorial Office chose the Jordan Dairy Company (JDC) as the "most outstanding one in its branch during 1981," according to the firm's general manager, Mr. Samir Abu Duhais.

He told the Jordan Times the publishers, who put out the Spanish newspaper Mercado Mundial, awarded JDC the Tenth International Trophy for quality, an award created "to distinguish a firm of every industrial branch whose services have deserved universal acclaim along the course of the year."

JDC now joins an exclusive array of international firms which have received the International Trophy for Quality. These include Fedders World Trade Corporation of the United States, Mannesmann Brothers and Karlsruhe Brewery of West Germany, the Belgian national airline Sabena, the French firms Peugeot and Moulinex, British Caledonian Airways and Rolls Royce of Great Britain and the Hungarian foodstuffs exporter Globus.

In the Arab World only two

firms have won the trophy: Large cement manufacturers of Morocco and Kuwait Aluminium, Mr. Duhais said.

The trophy will be handed over on April 23 during a ceremony in Madrid, attended by Spanish government officials and figures from the economic and cultural sectors.



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Iraqi-Jordanian firm keeps on trucking

By Steve Ross
Special to the Jordan Times

THE IRAQI-JORDANIAN Land Transport Company (IJLTC), established in 1980 to alleviate the acute shortage of transport at Aqaba, is now switching into overdrive. With capital recently doubled to \$50 million, 300 trucks in operation between Aqaba and Baghdad and another 450 units on the way, IJLTC expects by the end of 1982 to double its fleet. Then, with 1,500 trucks bearing its logo, the firm can move 9,000 tonnes a day to fulfill its stated purpose of meeting all of Iraq's import needs.

IJLTC Deputy Director Mahmoud Talhouni told the Jordan Times one way to double the company's fleet would be to pick up an option in the contracts it already has, allowing it to do so automatically. The two existing contracts are with a consortium led by the Austrian firm Steyr Daimler Puch, for 300 trailer trucks; and with West Germany's Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nürnberg (MAN), for 400. The extra 50 trucks now operating were provided by Steyr for temporary use pending the resolution of certain delays in the contract's implementation.

The other alternative for boosting IJLTC's fleet, Mr. Talhouni said, is to sign new contracts with other companies. The firm has been in touch with a number of potential suppliers, including Italian, West German, Swedish and French companies. Mr. Talhouni says there is a possibility of signing two completely new contracts by the end of the year.

The contracts signed and to be signed are not, however, for the simple supply of trucks. The contractor is also responsible for maintenance and operations for a set period, including the supply of drivers. Under this arrangement, IJLTC's first load moved on Oct. 15, 1981, and the company has so far hauled around 80,000 tonnes, Mr. Talhouni said.

MAN has already delivered its trucks, and is now operating most

lippines' Guimba Industrial Development and Construction Corporation (Guideco) for operations. Nootobom of the Netherlands, to manufacture the trailers. Several changes have been made since then. Nootobom was found to be slow in delivering the trailers, and was replaced by Fruehauf of France. The client was also unhappy with the French firm, however, and finally West Germany's Krone, already providing the trailers for MAN's trucks, was brought into the Steyr contract.

Guideco Vice-President for Middle East Operations Ben Espulgar told the Jordan Times that Steyr itself had also been slow to deliver the trucks. All 300 units were supposed to arrive by Dec. 31 last year, he said; but according to the current schedule the Austrian firm will deliver 100 trucks each in the months of March, April and May.

Road cleared

THE WAY has been cleared for the Steyr contract's implementation by final agreement on the JD 9.6 million bank guarantee. Objections raised by Steyr's government and private financiers to the wording of the guarantee were resolved in January, and the guarantee became effective last month. The consortium, which had already put up a performance bond, received an advance payment of JD 1.5 million.

Mr. Espulgar said his firm had originally been approached to form the trucking consortium. The Filipino company had not, however, been able to put up a performance bond acceptable to IJLTC, and Steyr ended up leading the team. The consortium's contract, worth JD 18 million, stipulated the provision and operation of 300 trucks to Middle East specifications, with six axles and 320 horsepower. The team was to operate the units for 24 months, during which 1.5 million tonnes of cargo would be hauled between Aqaba and Baghdad.

Also covered in the contract

ever, says he expects this will have to be raised. All facilities are to revert to the ownership of IJLTC at the end of the contract period, along with the trucks themselves.

By contrast with the Steyr consortium, MAN has encountered few hitches in implementing its contract. The German firm was able to provide its 400 trucks quickly, and no performance bond was required. IJLTC also needed to post no bank guarantee; but MAN got an advance payment of JD 2 million.

MAN, whose contract is worth JD 32 million, is to move 2.5 million tonnes in 24 months. In other respects its contract is the same as that of the Steyr-led consortium. MAN is supervising the operation of its own trucks; but it is importing personnel, mainly from Far Eastern and Third World countries.

Although MAN has delivered all 400 of its trucks, only 250 of them are on the road. Mr. Talhouni blames this on the shortage of drivers; but MAN Gustavsborg Commercial Manager Friedhelm Wollenhaupt told the Jordan Times the drivers were available. The problem is in obtaining work permits for them, he said.

Mr. Wollenhaupt cited two more problems: fuel and cargo. There is often not enough fuel, and trucks have to join long queues, he said. Cargo is supposed to come directly from IJLTC; but MAN finds itself obtaining freight from third parties. So far, Mr. Wollenhaupt said, there is enough cargo in Aqaba to keep the trucks moving, but "we are unable for the time being to fulfill our commitments due to these problems."

Mr. Espulgar also spoke of some difficulties in carrying out his firm's contract. In particular, he said, it is not easy these days to find qualified drivers in the Philippines. Guideco is not the only firm trying to recruit Filipinos for well-paid Middle East trucking jobs, he noted. Guideco now has about 100 people working on the IJLTC contract, its first job outside the Philippines. Mr. Espulgar says he expects to have 500 people once Steyr's 300 trucks are in operation.

Baghdad stations and the three pistons along the route.

The company will be able, once those contracts are implemented, to put roughly 225 trucks on the road every day. With the Aqaba-Baghdad journey taking six days, this allows for 10 per cent of the 1,500-strong fleet to be off the road for maintenance. The loads will average around 40 tonnes, which gives a total tonnage of 9,000 tonnes a day. The traffic is mostly in the Aqaba-Baghdad direction: there are certain export

contracts, however. The company, which now has a contract to carry 50,000 tonnes of dates from Baghdad to the port, expects soon to sign one for 500,000 tonnes of the same commodity.

The MAN units are licensed to take 42 tonnes; but the truckers habitually overload their vehicles. Mr. Talhouni says they are now sometimes taking as much as 60 tonnes in a truck, because of the shortage of transport. Guideco's 50 operational trucks, rated for 30-35 tonnes, take up to 45; Mr.

Espulgar says the drivers "always try to overload" their trucks.

Such overloading, while clearly a necessity in view of the transport situation, is a worrisome one. Exceeding the axle load contributes to what is already a serious problem: deterioration of the road surface. The truckers admit this is a problem, but express more concern at the amount of traffic on the road. Both these problems should be alleviated by desert road improvement projects already under way.

Easing the way for trucks

THE STATE of the Desert Highway's surface, and traffic conditions there, are notorious. The government, however, is aware of the problem, and is doing something about it. The total cost of current projects to upgrade and improve the road from Aqaba all the way to the Iraqi border, including a 16-kilometre new highway to bypass Zarqa city, is "not less than JD 90 million," according to the Public Works Ministry's director of major highway projects Ahmad Attiye.

Mr. Attiye told the Jordan Times that the section of the road between Azraq Oasis, in the northeastern desert, and the Iraqi frontier had recently been completed as a two-lane single carriageway road. The section between Azraq and the H5 station was completed in 1979, he said; the H4-H5 link started in 1981, and the road from H4 to the border was done in 1980. Since this stretch of road carries only traffic that is bound specifically for Iraq, its upgrading into a four-lane highway is not foreseen in the near future. But the design will be upgraded to handle heavy traffic; and Mr. Attiye said a tender for this purpose would be awarded soon.

Ministry of Public Works Under-Secretary Akram Sunna described work on the Amman to Aqaba road in terms of four sections, at varying stages of completion. The road between Ma'an and Aqaba will be made into a four-lane highway, he said, and consultants would be asked to tender for the job of studying this project "maybe within a few weeks."

The Ma'an to Amman link he spoke of in three roughly equal sections, on which work is much more advanced. The section from Amman to the village of Suwaqa is under study for conversion into a four-lane highway; by the local consultant firm Jouzy and Partners. The Suwaqa to Al Hasa section is already under construction as a four-lane road, by Retired Servicemen's Engineering (Retisir) of Taiwan, with designs by the local Ruqun Al Handasa. And the Hasa to Ma'an section, des-

igned by the local Arabtech, is under construction by Massar Engineering Establishment of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Attiye explained that the Suwaqa to Ma'an section, although now being built as a four-lane dual carriageway, could easily be further upgraded in the future to six lanes. All grading, culverts and other preparation had been done with this in mind, he said, and all that remained would be the laying of asphalt for the extra two lanes.

The Amman-Aqaba and Azraq-Iraq sections are being linked by another road now under construction, from the Amman-area town of Juweideh through Muwaqqar to Azraq. The Yugoslav firm Partizanskupit is building this section, with the American Wilbur Smith and Associates as consultant.

Considering the importance of these road projects to Iraq's economy, that country has been willing and ready to support them with financial assistance. Mr. Attiye said two recent Iraqi road loans totalled 70.5 million Iraqi dinars, including support for the specific project of the Zarqa bypass.

This new road will allow trucks to pass from south to north without having to go through Zarqa itself. Still under design by Associated Consulting Engineers of Athens in association with the local Subh Engineering Office, the link was originally estimated to cost about JD 4.5 million. Mr. Attiye said that after certain design changes and delays, it now looked more like JD 6.6 million.

One more project to ease the way for trucks through Jordan is also in the making; but Mr. Attiye said it might not be finished for more than five years. It is a "shortcut" link directly between Suwaqa and the Desert Highway to Azraq, which would enable drivers to avoid urban centres entirely. The ministry is about to tender for the design of this highway, which could cost about JD 10 million, Mr. Attiye said.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Jordan, U.K. exchange loan memos

AMMAN (Petra) — Britain and Jordan Sunday exchanged memos of an agreement for an £8 million British loan to Jordan to help finance a number of development projects, included in the current five-year development plan. They fall in the water, electricity and sewerage sectors. The agreement was signed for Jordan by National Planning Council President Hanna Odeh and for the United Kingdom by British Ambassador to Jordan Alan Bedford Urwick.

Mensah ends 5-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Assistant Chairman of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and former Benin Minister of Agriculture, Moise Mensah, left Amman on Sunday at the end of a five-day visit to Jordan during which he met with several high-ranking officials of the National Planning Council (NPC), the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) and the Agricultural Marketing Corporation (AMC). Mr. Mensah also visited several areas in the Jordan Valley where he heard an explanation on the projects being implemented by the JVA.

Bdoul bedouins to have own village

AMMAN (Petra) — The Bdoul bedouin tribe will be housed in a newly-built village to be called Umm Saihoun near Petra by the end of this year, according to Yusef Al-Alami, director of the Petra Tourist Development Project. He said the village, expected to cost JD 300,000 will include 100 housing units. The village is designed in a manner reminiscent of the caves found in the ancient Nabataean city, where the Bdoul tribe now lives, Mr. Alami said. He added that the project is intended to resettle the bedouins outside the historic city with the purpose of preserving its archaeological treasures.

Masri adds departments to his ministry

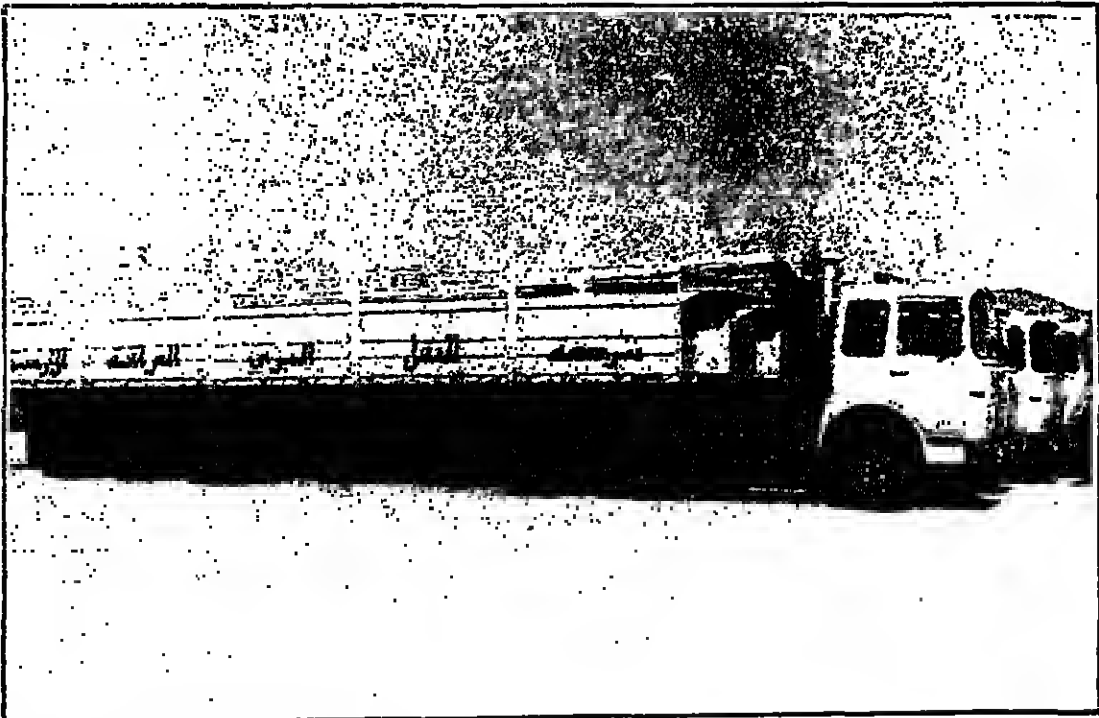
AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Awni Al Masri announced Sunday the formation of three departments at his ministry in line with its administrative structure for 1982. According to the minister, one of the departments will handle Ministry of Health building projects, the second those of the Ministry of Education and the third those of all other government departments.

Wadi Seer get JD 90,000 loan

WADI SEER (J.T.) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momeni, the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils, has approved a JD 90,000 loan for Wadi Seer Municipality. Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Sunday. The paper quoted Wadi Seer Mayor Husni Sobar, who signed the loan agreement Saturday, as saying the loan will be used for completing the Suweifich commercial complex.

GPs to organise medical day Friday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Association of General Practitioners in Jordan (AGP) will organise its second medical day, to be called "The Child's Day", on Friday in cooperation with Dar Al Dawa pharmaceutical firm. The day-long programme includes seminars and lectures on modern medical sciences and the diagnosis and treatment of children diseases. Taking part in the programme will be more than 350 Jordanian physicians representing various specialisations and organisations, an AGP announcement said.



Some of the company's trucks lining up for loading at Aqaba.

of them. The delays in implementing Steyr's contract have been caused by problems with production and delivery, and also with a bank guarantee that IJLTC had to put up to cover the cost of trucks and equipment.

Steyr, which signed its contract in May 1981, originally led a consortium that also included the Phi-

was the construction of garages and staff housing, comprising two main stations in Aqaba and Baghdad plus three checkpoints along the route. IJLTC was to pay the consortium out of fees collected for the hauling. The contract set a rate of 9.6 fils a tonne-kilometre, payable within 30 days of each trip; Mr. Espulgar, how-

ration.

Additional stations

MR. TALHOUNI says the new contracts, once signed, will have the same provisions as the previous two. In addition, however, they will call for the construction of two main stations, in Amman and Basra, to join the Aqaba and

Turkish Red Crescent aide due Monday, trade minister to start visit March 27

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish Red Crescent Society President Kemal Demir is due here Monday for a six-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JRCS).

During the visit, Dr. Demir will hold talks with Health Minister Zuheir Malhas and JRCS President Ahmad Abu Qoura and other officials on bolstering cooperation between the Jordanian and Turkish Red Crescent societies.

A special programme has been prepared for Dr. Demir and his delegation. It includes visiting archaeological sites and looking into JRCS activities.

Also it was announced here Sunday that Turkey's Minister of Trade Kemal Cantur will arrive in Amman on March 27 at the head of an official delegation for a visit to Jordan expected to last several days.

The Turkish delegation will hold talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour and other officials on ways of promoting trade relations between Jordan and Turkey and will explore the possibility of launching joint economic ventures, as well as the import of Turkish food commodities into Jordan, the announcement said.

Mr. Cantur is expected to visit other ministries and the National Planning Council, the announcement added.

Butros off for meeting on informatics

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Director Albert Butros left for Italy Sunday at the start of a tour that will also take him to Tunisia and France.

Dr. Butros said that he will take part in a special meeting on informatics to open in Rome Monday which is organised by the Inter-governmental Bureau for Informatics in cooperation with the Arab Thought Forum and the Arab Development Fund.

According to Dr. Butros, subjects connected with the employment of informatics, particularly in agriculture, will be discussed at the meeting.

Dr. Butros is also to take part in a meeting of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation advisory committee, which will open in Tunis early next week. On the committee are heads of nine Arab scientific research centres. Dr. Butros said.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- * Art by students of the National Orthodox School, at the Alia Art Gallery. (Ends today).
- * A Deck of Cards, paintings by contemporary British artists on the theme of playing cards, at the British Council daily from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Film

- * Gigi, at the American Centre at 7 p.m.

ACOR lecture

- * Antoniazio Romano — a Newly-Discovered Master of the Renaissance, by Mrs. Virginia Aahrens, at the American Centre of Oriental Research at 7:45 p.m. In collaboration with the Italian Embassy.

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Today's weather

It will continue cloudy to partly cloudy, with scattered rain. Temperatures will decrease and winds will be westerly moderate to fresh. Slight snow is possible in hilly areas. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy to cloudy with scattered showers, southerly moderate to fresh winds becoming northerly, and rough seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	3	12
Aqaba	9	22
Deserts	2	15
Jordan Valley	8	18

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 42 per cent, Aqaba 39 per cent.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 67171-2-3-4
Tlx. 21497 Al Rai JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.

The Jordan Times is published daily, except Fridays.
Advertising and subscription rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Look more closely

ONE OF the ironies of newspaper production and marketing is that news items, which are often among the most important on a particular day, are placed not on the front page, but sometimes deep within the paper—in the financial section. The result may be that many readers remain unaware of developments which can have important repercussions not only for business, but in politics and in everyone's daily life.

A recent series of pessimistic reports and forecasts on the economy page, including the Economic Commission for Europe's warning of impending depression, falls into this class. The current picture of falling production, rising unemployment and still-high interest rates in the West is not a cheery one. And if the slump continues or—as has been warned—accelerates, governments' success in putting the reins on inflation may not mean much.

"So what," we can hear the immediate cry. "Recession, depression, unemployment and what-have-you in the West are the West's problem." Perhaps so—and perhaps the Arab World is independent enough, and still has enough petroleum-based wealth, that it doesn't have to worry. But before sitting back to our comfortable cups of coffee, let's look a little more carefully.

Recent years have seen attempts on the part of the wealthier Arab states both to diversify their sources of income—a wise policy—and to invest their cash surpluses in profit-producing Western enterprises—which may not have been so wise. For the closer the links between the economies of the West and of the Arab World, the greater the threat posed to the latter by troubles in the former.

Along with the sluggish economic indicators, a second worrying trend—probably of more immediate concern—is the drop in oil prices. Petroleum producers are finding themselves forced to reassess their marketing and production policies in the face of the loss of what once seemed invincible power.

Again, the cry arises: Not all Arab countries are oil-producers, and for many, these warnings don't seem as pressing. But one should remember that Arab oil wealth benefits not only those states that actually produce the oil. And it may soon be too late to use that wealth in the service of the foremost Arab political cause.

We should all watch the economy page more closely.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Better Afro-Arab relations

AL RA'I: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and former Senegalese President Leopold Senghor signed on Saturday the final statement summing up the meetings of the Afro-Arab Forum's preparatory committee held in Amman on March 9-11.

The statement gave a clear picture of the relationship that should be established between Africa and the Arab states. It stressed that the two sides should strengthen cultural, political and economic cooperation and reach a joint understanding and mutual stands for facing problems. The statement means that the Afro-Arab destiny is no longer a mere idea, but that it is being put to practice. It is clear that the preparatory committee has made a great achievement towards establishing a joint Afro-Arab weight not only in Africa and the Arab World but in the world as a whole.

It is needless to say that Afro-Arab cooperation can help Arabs and Africans in facing a number of problems and dangers threatening them, particularly the Israeli danger which is now trying to penetrate Africa once again in order to bleed its resources and impose its hegemony there.

The Afro-Arab Forum's statement puts the Africans and the Arabs face to face with all the problems and dangers threatening them urging them to confront these dangers and to build a new future for the Arabs and the Africans that depends on their cultural, political and economic strength.

The African and Arab practices will be the sole criterion for their ability to interpret the picture delineated by the statement issued by the Afro-Arab Forum's preparatory committee.

Room for optimism

AL DUSTOUR: The members of the committee who visited Tehran recently in an attempt to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war issued a number of statements which give hope that the Iraqis would agree to stop the war imposed on Iraq.

The two warring parties' acceptance of mediation and the resumption of negotiations is a good basis on which to build peace and to stop the bloodshed. The committee should exploit this good sign and come up with a formula acceptable to both sides.

It has been proven that the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war can only inflict more disasters on Iran. None of the Arabs, least of all Iraq, want this to happen to Iran. It is a crime to continue sending young Iranian people to be killed in a futile war against Iraq.

From the very beginning of the war, all Arabs, Muslims and sane people called for stopping the war and for putting an end to this bloodshed. They stressed that both warring parties should resort to reason and accept mediation in order to spare both countries many sacrifices. Iraq responded to these voices, accepted to stop the war and to resort to logic, reason and mediation. Despite Iraq's military superiority and despite the fact that the continuation of war stands to harm Iran more than Iraq, Iraq was always the side to follow all peace efforts.

Listening to optimistic statement issued by Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq, the principle of stopping the war, we hope that peace will be established between the two brotherly countries and that this tragedy will come to an end.

Met under Zionist attack

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuter

Until recently no American institution has been more adept at handling the delicate politics of culture than New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, known as the "Met".

Ignoring political dividing lines, it once coaxed the Kremlin into lending it Russia's rarest icons and even Catherine the Great's wedding dress.

It also convinced Ireland to part briefly with the book of Kells, the country's most prized work of art, and from Egypt it won permission to show King Tutankhamen's treasures.

But over past weeks the met has been the target of an Israeli campaign accusing it of playing politics and an attack by New York Mayor Edward Koch charging that the museum is suffering "political hallucinations".

The uproar prompted some museum members to quit and caused the New York City Council to take a first step, now withdrawn, towards removing a \$10.6 million a year subsidy.

The cause of all the fuss was the disclosure that the museum, after four and a half years of negotiations, has refused to be the sponsor of an exhibition of "Israeli" archaeological treasures including many items from the occupied West Bank.

The museum's reasons for its refusal struck a raw nerve in this city whose large Jewish population strongly supports cultural institutions like the Met and, on the other hand, takes any rejection of Israel as a personal slight.

The Met said it could not directly sponsor the show since many items would come from the Rockefeller museum in occupied Jerusalem which the museum called "disputed territory". It said to do so would involve the Met in politics.

The Met also claimed that sponsoring the exhibit posed a major security risk, although it was willing to show the same exhibit if it were sponsored by the government-funded Smithsonian institute.

While former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the most prominent Jewish member of the

Met's board of trustees, agreed with the museum's stand not to involve itself in Middle East politics, a huge outcry followed over what critics claimed was the museum's tangled logic and implicit anti-Semitism.

Security was never a public issue when the museum sponsored exhibits from Arab countries, the Soviet Union or China—countries from which thousands have sought refuge in New York and actively protest against their former homelands.

Met President William Macomber said that if the met directly sponsored the show, it would be making foreign policy.

He said: "We did feel, in consulting knowledgeable people on our board, that we couldn't have an Israeli show that was predominantly made up of things from disputed territories. I said the best thing was for us to take the Smithsonian show, organised by the U.S. government."

The Smithsonian, which is partly government-funded, later protested that it was not an arm of the U.S. government.

Mr. Macomber's comments drew attacks from Israel, which

claimed that only a small part of the proposed show came from the occupied West Bank, and from Mayor Koch, an outspoken Israeli supporter.

The Mayor wrote to Met Board Chairman Douglas Dillon charging that the museum was being unfair to Israel and subordinating curatorial decisions to "political hallucinations and speculative fears of reprisals by terrorists."

The Mayor, who fanatically lambasts the United Nations for anti-Israel votes, threatened that he could not stand idly by if the Met was to be guided by political decisions, "particularly since the city of New York provides financial support to the museum."

That support this year totals \$10.6 million, or 23 per cent of the museum's budget.

City hall sources said Mr. Koch suggested that a possible reason for the Met's decision was that by sponsoring such an Israeli show, it would endanger the museum's archaeological digs in Arab countries.

A museum spokeswoman later denied that this was a factor. Mr. Dillon, in a letter to the mayor,

apologised for the museum's decision and promised to work out a solution "satisfactory to the parties concerned."

His letter stopped a move in the New York City Council to begin a hearing on city funding for the museum, which is located on tax-free city-owned land.

While several Jewish groups hailed Mr. Dillon's letter, especially his vow that he and the museum were firmly committed to the idea that "cultural decisions must not be politicised," the Met's action still ruffles several prominent New York Jewish leaders.

They claimed all that has changed is that the Met has publicly apologised for taking a decision that museum officials should have known in the first place would cause an uproar.

They added that the Met is still not directly sponsoring the exhibit but simply planning to show one organised by the Smithsonian, now planned for spring 1984, with the objects basically to be chosen by the Smithsonian. The exhibit will be shown across the country. The Met says it would like to be the first museum to show it.



France joins 'spy in the sky' club

By Gilbert Sedbon
Reuter

PARIS — France plans to put a spy satellite in orbit in the next five years to become the third country after the U.S. and the Soviet Union to track troops movements and military installations throughout the world, defence officials say.

The project has taken more than 20 years to materialise because the U.S. refused to help West European nations launch their own military surveillance satellites, the officials say.

"France, a nuclear power in its own right, has made no secret of its efforts to acquire observation instruments rather than rely exclusively on data supplied by the U.S. to the Atlantic allies," a senior defence official said.

"It is essential that we have our own spy satellite, and the sooner we get it the better."

When ELDO, the European

Launcher Development Organisation, was dissolved in the early 1970s after repeated European failures to build a telecommunications satellite booster, France said it would foot the major part of a billion-dollar bill to develop the now operational Ariane launcher.

The U.S. government had discouraged its European partners from building boosters, offering its own launching facilities for experimental satellites. But the Cape Canaveral space centre was not always available when required, French officials say.

The Franco-German telecommunications satellite symphony, launched by the U.S. several years ago, could not be used commercially because competition with Intelsat (International Telecommunications Organisation) satellites was banned by the Intelsat convention, legal sources said.

Finally, France achieved inde-

pendence by building its own launcher, the Ariane, which will put into orbit a spy satellite the French are now developing and building called Samro (Military Reconnaissance and observation Satellite).

France's armed forces have already booked part of the French earth observation satellite spot, due to be launched in June 1984. Spot will be operated by the National Space Research Centre (CNES) for scientific purposes, but the armed forces will use it until Samro is launched.

The French spy satellite will be equipped with an "electric eye" and should be able to detect strategic installations, shipping at sea and tank and troops movements on land anywhere in the world, defence officials say.

Samro, an all-French venture, is being built by Matra, the satellite and missile producing group, in cooperation with the Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (SEP),

which specialises in thrusters, and the plane-maker Aerospatiale, which will be responsible for the data processing equipment and terminal stations.

The French spy will differ from the U.S. Big Birds and the Soviet Molniya and Cosmos satellites, which use very expensive systems France could ill afford.

The American and Soviet satellites fly very low, at an altitude no greater than 200 kilometres for detailed photographs. But flying that low, they can only stay in orbit a few months and then have to be replaced.

An extra expense is the recovery of these satellites to avoid the risk of photographs of sensitive areas falling into hostile hands.

Unlike the U.S. satellites which "see" with an optical eye, Samro will be a "video spy" processing luminous data through a computer linked to terminals.

It will be placed in an orbit 800

kilometres above the earth, which should give it a life span of several years.

One major difference between Samro and the Big Birds is that the American satellites have their "eyes" in space and their "brains" on the ground, while the French satellite will have its "eyes and brain" in orbit, according to Matra technicians.

Another difference is that the Big Birds sweep and report everything, whereas Samro will be more selective in its accumulation of data.

The French plan to build three spy satellites, one to be put into orbit, one to remain on standby in case the first one suddenly fails, and a third to be held in reserve, defence officials say.

The defence ministry estimates the total cost, including launchings, ground stations and terminals, at two billion francs (\$300 million).

Turkey under the generals

By Phil Davison
Reuter

ANKARA — In 18 months of military rule, Turkey's generals have executed 10 people, locked up 30,000, rescued the economy from near-bankruptcy and promised a return to democracy by 1984.

The man in the street will tell you life under the military has been comfortable while for those in jail, most of them untied, it has been less so.

Torture allegations are frequent but few Turks hear them because the press is muzzled.

The fear of armed street violence, which was taking a toll of 25 deaths a day before the coup, has gone. Only the fear of arrest for ideological reasons remains.

Since the Sept. 12, 1980 takeover, the National Security Council of armed forces chiefs has ratified death sentences imposed on 10 left and right-wing guerrillas convicted by military tribunals. The sentences were swiftly carried out.

Troops have rounded up 30,000 people from all walks of life, usually in batches of several hundred, and locked them up pending trial for anti-state activities before the coup.

Mass trials, held in indoor sports halls, are going on almost daily in towns throughout the

country. The most recent arrests, two weeks ago, included the head of the Turkish bar association, Orhan Apaydin, journalists Ali Simen and Niyazi Dalyanci and about 40 other people for belonging to the Turkish Peace Association, a left-wing group banned along with most other organisations after the coup.

Mr. Apaydin, the journalists and the others were accused of communist activities, charges which could bring 20 years in jail, apparently because their peace association was alleged to have had links with the Soviet-backed World Peace Council.

"If striving for peace is a crime, then I shall gladly and with honour take the consequences," Mr. Apaydin said in a press statement just before his arrest.

He said he thought he was being arrested because he was the leading lawyer in another mass trial, that of 52 former chiefs of the giant left-wing trade union confederation known by its Turkish initials DİSK.

The union men, including former DİSK Chairman Abdullah Basturk, face death sentences on charges of trying to impose communism on Turkey.

They are among many Turkish prisoners who say they have been badly tortured during their 18 months detention since the coup.

Mr. Basturk's lawyers say he was beaten on the head while blindfolded during interrogation. More dramatic are the charges by the lawyers of DİSK Secretary-General Fehmi Isiklar, who say he was hung by his feet and severely beaten.

The military government, led by General Kenan Evren, badly needs foreign aid despite an improvement in the economy and is sensitive to torture allegations.

After the London-based civil rights organisation Amnesty International alleged in January that 70 Turks had been tortured to death in jail since the coup, the military hit back.

It introduced to the press in the Western city of Izmir two of the Turks, a man and woman, on the Amnesty list. They appeared in good health and were still facing trial.

But a similar propaganda effort in Ankara backfired and at the same time revealed the extent of press censorship in Turkey.

Five prisoners said to be on the Amnesty list were paraded before Turkish reporters in a military jail. The men, flanked by soldiers, shouted "happy he is he who can say 'I am a Turk'."

The Turkish papers the following day quoted the prisoners as saying they had seen no torture. But a tape recording of the interviews obtained by foreign jour-

nalists also disclosed that one of the prisoners had complained of torture, another of mistreatment and another had fainted.

Outside the prisons, life appears peaceful and a far cry from the violent and bloody pre-coup days.

There are signs, however, that the feeling of comfort is wearing off among some Turks.

Newspaper columnists, while they cannot be direct, are becoming more aggressive, often using pointed fairy tales to criticise the government.

The government's economic methods have been less controversial, so far successful and widely applauded by international financial institutions.

With no opposition to worry about, the government has stuck to a tight money policy, slashing inflation from the pre-coup annual rate of 130 per cent to less than 40 per cent.

According to official statistics, growth last year was 4.4 per cent. The foreign trade deficit was cut by about 15 per cent, largely through a 60 per cent boost in exports.

Deputy Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, the architect of the recovery programme who has supreme power over the economy, has eliminated the parallel black market economy and reduced the red tape which frustrated foreign traders

and investors. The Turkish lira is valued daily against major currencies, in the hope of eventually making it convertible.

Foreign debts remain a huge burden, at more than \$17 billion, but repayments on most of them have been deferred.

On the international front, the military leadership in Ankara has forged a warm relationship with the United States, which has important military bases in Turkey, its NATO ally.

The Reagan administration, particularly Secretary of State Alexander Haig who got to know Turkey's military chiefs well when he was NATO commander in Europe, has strongly supported the Ankara government.

The generals' relations with West Europe, however, have been less cosy, with the European Economic Community withholding aid due to the absence of democracy.

The military leaders have set a timetable for full democracy within the next two years but it will be based on a constitution drawn up by an assembly hand-picked by the generals.

"I believe they will stick to their timetable. But what kind of democracy will it be?" former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit, now banned from political activity, asked recently.

Fascism modern fashion

By Michael Sheridan
Reuter

ROME — Members of the Italian far-right, custodians of the spirit of Italy's Fascist past, are trying to persuade voters that they offer a respectable alternative to recurring scandals and government crises.

Giorgio Almirante, leader of MSI, the party of Italy's neo-Fascists, advocates a blend of what he calls the patriotic virtues of the age of Fascist Dictator Benito Mussolini and "practical corporatism."

But he and his followers also take trouble to distance themselves from the violent extremes of rightist urban guerrillas and the excesses and rejection of the democratic process that typified Mussolini's rule.

Mr. Almirante, a distinguished-looking 67-year-old, told the MSI's 13th congress, "restoring the Fascist regime without Mussolini or the historical forces which gave it life, credibility and strength? Only madmen could think of it."

The MSI (the initials stand for Italian Social Movement) is the fourth largest party in Italy. Cold-shouldered by the other parties and constantly reviled by the left, it nonetheless holds 30 seats in the 630-seat Chamber of Deputies and 13 in the 315-seat Senate.

Mr. Almirante, a former petty official in Mussolini's administration, a journalist, war correspondent and bolder of the military cross of valour, is balding, moustachioed and dresses impeccably.

The MSI Congress was torn with interminable disputes but enough rhetoric emerged to give a picture of the kind of Italy he and his followers would like to see.

The history of the far right is a murky affair, full of accusations and counter-charges about murders, terrorism, arms caches and failed coups.

Mr. Almirante steers a skilful path through the minefields of Italian politics. The MSI, he says, represents a "third way."

Opponents say the MSI is a collection of reactionaries nostalgic for the "excesses of Fascism and secretly sympathetic to violence."

Far-right groups have killed more people, usually in bomb blasts, than extreme leftists, including the Red Brigades.

But the MSI loudly condemns violence and constantly campaigns for the death penalty for guerrillas convicted of murder.

Political analysts say that despite constant threats to resign if internal schisms continue, Mr. Almirante is a key figure in the drive to present the party as a respectable alternative.

The MSI's platform is a mixture, which the analysts describe as an attempt to appeal to the law-and-order-seeking middle classes and to disgruntled workers and farmers who feel Italian society has let them down.

It promotes a suggestion that military tribunals should summarily try and execute guerrillas with the same enthusiasm as plans to reorganise the economy on lines clearly reminiscent of the theories of Mussolini.

Mr. Almirante even declared himself "profoundly moved" to note what he perceived as "the similarity between the recent encyclical of Pope John Paul 'laborem exercens' (on work and workers) and the social objectives of our own party."

But the activities of some far-right militants suggest that many are more concerned with carrying the fight to the opposition by whatever means possible than with high-sounding utterances about national renewal.

Last weekend, magistrates named three senior police officials in connection with rightist violence involving a feud between rival neo-Nazi and Fascist factions and attacks on leftist organisations and activists.

Massacres such as the Bologna station bombing in 1980 where 84 people were killed have been the hallmark of neo-Fascist violence. The trial of neo-Nazi activist Mario Tuti and others accused of the 1974 bombing of a passenger express outside Bologna, which is communist run, is still in progress.

The MSI is at pains to distance itself from violent groups such as the "armed Revolutionary Nuclei" (NAR) and "Third Position" but many members of these groups who end up in court appear to have joined the party at some state in their careers.

Mr. Almirante told the Congress "a vote for us is not just a negative vote but a vote of opposition."

In the last elections, in 1979, Italians gave their verdict on the MSI's promises and the party gained some 5.3 per cent of the popular vote.

جورنال صفا

Economists warn U.S. to take urgent measures to save economy

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States could face a wave of major bankruptcies and an economic depression unless urgent action is taken in the next three months, according to some economic forecasters.

With increasing frequency, even cautious economists are leaving room in their forecasts for the possibility of a depression. "It is rather disturbing. People would not have even talked about that word six months ago," said David Jones, top forecaster for New York investment company, Aubrey Langston.

In a series of interviews, private economists told Reuters that President Reagan, Congress or the Federal Reserve Board—the inde-

pendent U.S. central bank—will have to take major steps to rescue the economy.

President Reagan's budget proposals project a deficit of \$91.5 billion for the next financial year, and similarly high shortfalls for years to come.

The prospect of such deficits, the experts say, has terrified financial markets and applied steady upward pressure on U.S. interest rates, already standing at a steep 16.5 per cent.

The commitment of the central bank—the "Fed"—to slow monetary growth leaves little new capital for economic recovery, and this also tends to push interest rates up.

The economists note that Congress has little if any control over

the Fed and must try to cope with the economic dilemma by rewriting the president's budget.

But Mr. Reagan has steadfastly refused to consider any proposals that would tamper either with this tax cut programme or with his build-up of defence, two major factors contributing to his large deficit projections.

None of the alternatives to the president's budget so far offered has attracted enough support in Congress from his fellow Republicans and opposition Democrats to override his objections.

Financial markets have reacted strongly to this impasse. The Dow Jones industrial average of prices for 30 leading industrial shares has fallen about 55

points to below the 800 level since the president's budget was first leaked to the press in the first week of February.

Otto Eckstein, head of the consulting firm Data Resources, says in his latest forecast: "It is quite unrealistic to suppose that Congress can rescue the budget in the face of presidential opposition."

George MacKinney, senior economist for Irving Trust bank in New York, says: "As long as (interest) rates remain high, the potential for major and widespread bankruptcies will increase."

The Reagan administration has for the past year forecast a decline in interest rates, but Mr. Jones and Mr. MacKinney are not very hopeful about short-term interest rate trends.

Western recession affects Southeast Asia

SINGAPORE (R) — The recession in the West has finally caught up with the prospering economies of Southeast Asia, casting gloom over export prospects and sending share prices tumbling on the Singapore and Kuala Lumpur stock exchanges.

Although all the countries in the region have recorded impressive annual growth rates of between five and 10 per cent, economic expansion is expected to slow slightly this year as the effects of the slump in the United States and Europe start to filter through.

Some five billion Singapore dollars (\$2.4 billion) has been wiped off the value of shares on the Singapore stock exchange in the last month and traders see no end to the slide in the immediate future.

The picture is as grim in Malaysia, where earnings from commodities, the main export, have been hit by the world slump in

industrial demand for rubber, tin and palm oil.

Shares on the Kuala Lumpur market dropped nearly four billion ringgit (\$1.7 billion) in value last month and are unlikely to improve with the prospect of a general election before the middle of the year unsettling investors, according to stockbrokers.

However, local factors have only a slight effect and the main reason for the downturn is the all-pervading influence of the American economy, the progressive slowdown of which has gradually sapped confidence here.

Plantation stocks, quoted on both the Singapore and Kuala

Lumpur exchanges, have already taken a hard knock because of sagging commodity prices, but some market watchers believe they could fall another 10 to 15 per cent. Other sectors to feel the pinch have been trading com-

panies, cars, and ship repairing. Some of the stocks to escape the general decline have been companies servicing the booming oil production and exploration industries since they have full order books up to 1984.

Japan to propose trade talks

TOKYO (R) — Japan, under pressure from the United States and Western Europe over its huge trade surpluses, is to propose a new round of international trade talks, Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakaue said on television Sunday.

In a discussion programme recorded on Saturday, he said he would suggest a new session of talks, similar to the "Tokyo round" of negotiations in 1973-79, when he went to Washington later this week.

Bleak prospects for U.N. fund for commodities

By Tom Heneghan
Reuters

GENEVA — The United Nations common fund for commodities, a price-stabilising scheme once touted as the great hope of Third World raw materials producers, is plodding along with little prospect of coming into operation in the near future.

Established in 1980 after four years of Third World pressure, the fund has yet to be ratified by many of the states which originally saw it as the first step towards a fairer distribution of the world's riches.

Diplomats and officials at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva blame the delay on everything from bureaucratic inefficiency to serious doubts about the changes made in the fund during the long negotiations which established it.

But none of the reasons can hide the disappointment that the novel plan to restructure world commodity trade seems to have lost its steam.

"The common fund was supposed to be the flagship of the new international economic order, but now it looks like it is headed straight for the sand," a sympathetic West European diplomat said.

The fund is supposed to come into operation on March 31 after 90 countries representing two-thirds of its \$470 million directly contributed capital have formally

ratified it. But up until now 78 countries have signed the agreement and only 21 states have ratified it. This will make an extension of the deadline necessary and has raised doubts whether the plan will ever start supporting the prices of cocoa, coffee, rubber, tin and 14 other commodities.

The fund was intended to smooth out the world market for raw materials to protect both the producer countries — which often depend on exports of one or two commodities — and consumers from prices that soar and crash every few years.

"The fund is to have a \$400 million 'first account', which will act like a bank to help commodity prices such as the international rubber council obtain cheap loans to buy stocks.

Stock managers would then smooth out price fluctuations by buying goods when prices fell too low and reselling them when increased demand suddenly pushed prices too high.

A \$350 million "second ac-

count" will be used to lend money to poor countries seeking technical help to improve their raw materials output.

Radical critics of the fund such as Libya and Algeria say all this is far below the six billion dollar scheme originally proposed and will be insufficient to really stabilise prices.

Lacking that much money, the preparatory rounds decided commodity agreements should involve giving the fund one third of their top financing needs, the money provided by producers and consumers to stabilise markets, to hold as collateral for loans.

"This is all topsy-turvy," an Asian diplomat complained. "The fund was supposed to help commodity agreements get started but now it is the agreements which are supposed to launch the fund."

UNCTAD officials say countries like Brazil, a key member in existing agreements on coffee, rubber and sugar, soon lost interest in a fund which would rob them of much of their influence in these bodies for little clear gain.

Malaysia, a pillar of the international tin agreement, also seems to have doubts about being just another member of the fund. This month it unsuccessfully tried to woo Indonesia into an OPEC-like producers organisation which would deny the idea of producer-consumer cooperation implicit in the common fund.

Malaysia is also rumoured to be

connected with recent mystery purchases of tin on the London Metal Exchange pushing tin prices to record levels of about \$16,650 a tonne.

Moderate voices in the Third World also say the voting system worked out in a compromise with reluctant developed states was another big disappointment.

The Third World was to have strong voting rights in the fund as originally conceived, so they could use it as a tool to break Western domination of the commodity trade. Instead, its 47 per cent of the ballot can only block passage of ideas it does not accept. A two-thirds majority is needed to pass motions.

And distribution of the 104,000 votes in the fund's council is weighted in favour of rich consuming countries rather than the poorer countries producing the commodities in question.

Heavy foot-dragging by the United States, matched by more reserved reluctance from the Soviet bloc, has also clouded the fund's prospects, according to UNCTAD secretariat officials.

Washington's stand shifted from reluctant acceptance to a more active opposition when President Reagan entered office. Money allocated for the fund was slashed from his fiscal 1983 budget, the officials say.

One diplomat said Washington, which is to contribute 16 per cent of the fund's capital, might delay

ratification to use it as a bargaining chip in negotiations on other measures at the next UNCTAD conference in mid-1983.

The U.S. also fought hard to weaken agreements on rubber and tin last year and then refused to join, a sign diplomats in Geneva interpret as an example of Mr. Reagan's tough economic policies used on a global scale.

The Soviet Union and its allies, which would make up 10 per cent of the fund's capital, have not yet signed the fund agreement, and Moscow's absence from the rubber agreement last year leaves that serious flawed as well.

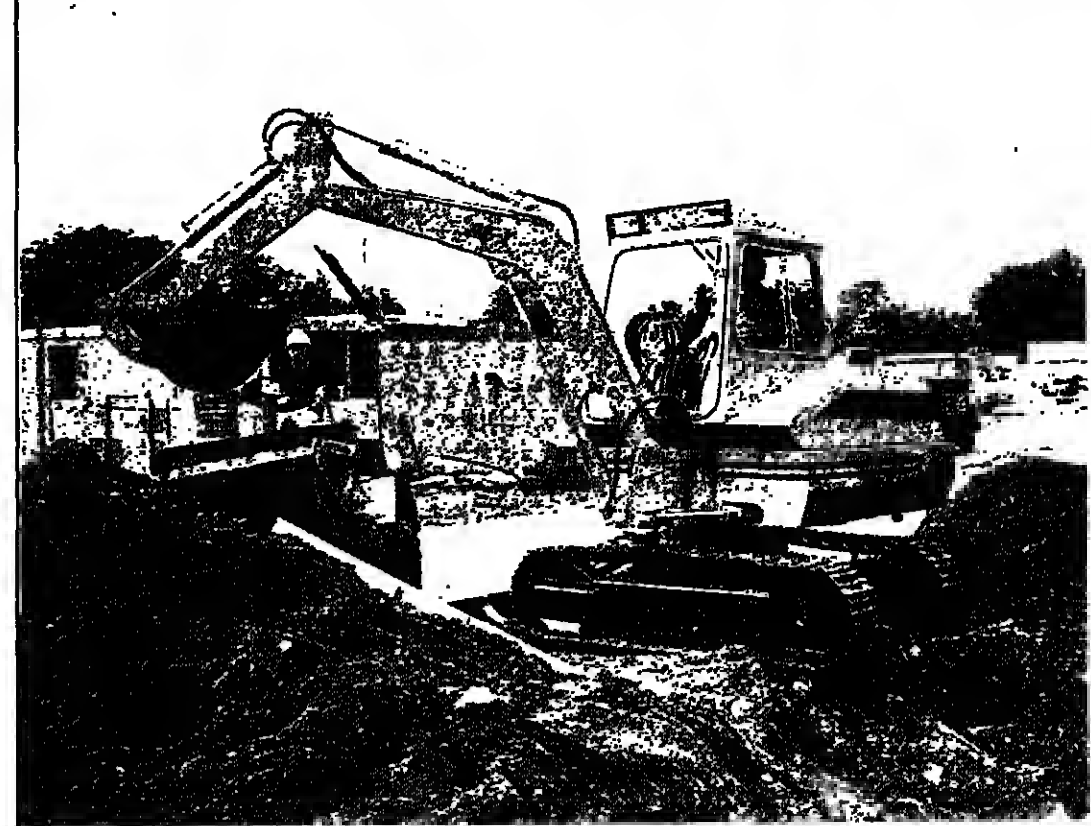
As the common fund loses its place in the vanguard of the new international economic order, the UNCTAD secretariat has begun searching for new ways of helping developing countries earn more for their raw materials; the prices of which hit the lowest levels since 1960 last year.

At two meetings in Geneva earlier this month, UNCTAD outlined the case for developing countries to process and market more of their commodities to earn more for them when exported.

It also proposed a special fund to compensate developing countries for shortfalls in export earnings due to sudden drops in prices for their commodities.

But these ideas were roundly criticised by delegates from the industrialised countries.

Mini excavator makes its debut



LONDON (LPS) — The B15-X is a tracked mini excavator with a heavy duty undercarriage and tractor-type running gear—for good traction and adhesion, especially when working on inclines—that can be operated in confined spaces such as close against walls.

Developed in Britain, the excavator has a maximum digging depth of 3 metres and a maximum reach at ground of 4.7m. Powered by a Leyland 1.8 litre water-cooled diesel engine, it is fitted with planetary reduction gearing in the track drive to give a ground clearance of 275mm.

The full size cab is insulated and mounted on the right of the machine on anti-noise and vibration

pads. It has a two-lever control system (both mounted on the left) and a separate panel above the windscreen with hour metre, warning lights, wipers and heaters. The standard 55-degree boom offset either side of centre allows the machine to operate in confined spaces where slewing the whole upper structure is impossible.

Fitted as standard is a dozer blade for back filling and accurate levelling and grading. Additional front end equipment can include a power hammer, hydraulic grabs, grapples and a long dipper.

The B15-X has an overall height of 2.30m, width 1.54m, an overall transport length of 4.50m and weighs 3250 kg.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30 Koran
5:50 Laurel and Hardy
6:05 Children's Programme
6:30 Children's Programme
7:15 Local Programme
7:30 Special Programme on Arab Cities' Day
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Cultural Seminar
9:20 Arabic Series
10:15 Panorama
11:10 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Environmental Protection
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Comedy: Taxi
9:10 Hart to Hart
10:00 News in English
10:15 Brideshead Revisited
11:00 News in Arabic

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM

7:00 Sign on
7:30 Morning Show
7:40 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
10:00 News Headlines
10:05 Morning Show
10:30 30 minute Theatre
11:00 Sign off
12:03 News Headlines
12:03 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 News Bulletin
14:30 The Elton John Story
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:03 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 French way of Life
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Sports Round-up
18:30 North by Sea
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Instrumentals
20:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
22:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT

04:00 Newsdesk 04:30 The End of the Affair 04:45 Notes from an Observer 04:50 Paperback Choice 04:55 Reflections 05:00 World News; 24 Hours; News Summary 05:30 Peaches' Choice 05:45 A Pattern of Faith 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Musician at Large 07:00 World News; 24 Hours; News Summary 07:30 Countdown Style 07:45 Short Story 08:00 World News; Reflections 08:15 The London Bach 08:30 Baker's Half Dose 09:00 World News; British Press Review 09:15 Notes from an Observer 09:20 Goods Books 09:35 Interlude 09:40 Look Ahead 09:45 A Word in Edgeways 10:15 The Instrument Makers 10:30 Smash of the Day: The New Lark 11:00 World News; News About Britain 11:15 Backtracking 11:30 The Reith Lectures 12:00 Radio Newsreel 12:15 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12:45 Sports Round-up 13:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 13:30 Country Style 13:45 Poor Embarrassed Reptile 14:15 The End of the Affair 14:30 Rock Solid 15:00 Radio Newsreel 15:15 Outlook 16:00 World News; Commentary 16:15 A Man of Pleasure 16:45 The World Today 17:00 World News 17:09 Europa 17:25 New Ideas 17:35 Paperback Choice 17:40 Interlude 17:45 Sports Round-up 18:00 World News; News About Britain 18:15 Radio Newsreel 18:30 Rhythm 'n' Roots 19:00 Outlook: News Summary 19:30 Stock Market Report 19:45 Look Ahead 19:45 Peaches' Choice 20:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 20:30 Sports International 21:00 Network U.K. 21:15 Europa 21:30 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 22:00 The World Today 22:25 Book Choice 22:30 Financial News 22:40 Receptions 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 World News; Commentary 23:15 Classical Record Review 23:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral?

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT
03:00 Daybreak 04:00 The Breakfast Show 15:00 News Roundup: Reports, Actualities, News Summary 15:30 VOA Magazine Show:

Americana, Science, Listeners' letters 16:00 Special English News 16:10 Special English Science and Technology Report 16:15 Feature: This is America 16:30 Music USA: Standards 17:00 News Roundup 17:30 Duetline 18:00 Special English News 18:10 Science and Technology 18:15 This is America 18:30 Music USA: Standards 19:00 News Roundup 19:30 VOA Magazine Show 20:00 Special English News 20:10 Science and Technology 20:15 Music USA: Jazz 21:00 VOA World Report: News, Newsmakers' Voices, Correspondents' Reports, Analyses

AMMAN AIRPORT
NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided to the Jordan Times by the Air information department at Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

ARRIVALS

8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:55 Agaba
9:00 Cairo
9:00 Damascus
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Dhahran
9:45 Kuwait
9:50 Muscat, Dubai
10:00 Doha, Bahrain
10:10 Beirut, Larnaca
10:15 Abu Dhabi
10:55 Kuwait (SR)
14:10 Tripoli (LA)
14:25 Moscow (SU)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:25 Beirut
16:45 Bangkok
17:00 Athens
17:00 Cairo
18:05 Amsterdam, Beirut (KLM)
18:05 London (BA)
18:30 Paris (AF)
20:30 Cairo (EA)
20:30 Beirut (MEA)
00:20 Cairo (EA)
01:00 Baghdad
01:00 Caun
02:00 Baghdad

DEPARTURES:

03:00 Cairo
06:15 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Damascus
07:00 Agaba
09:00 Cairo (EA)

09:00 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York
11:15 Athens
11:30 Cairo
11:45 Geneva, Zurich (SR)
11:45 Tunis, Madrid
12:00 Paris, London
13:00 Beirut
15:10 Tripoli (LA)
15:30 Moscow (SU)
16:35 Kuwait (KAC)
16:35 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:15 Dhahran
19:30 Jeddah
19:30 Cairo
20:15 Baghdad
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
21:30 Cairo (EA)
22:00 Baghdad
01:15 Cairo (EA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Amman:
Daoud Al Samhoury 76892
Farouk Hussein Noor 38189

Zargat:
Baba'ul Deen Al Kashef (Hussein Quarter)
Misbah Al Hijjawi 81217/82254

Irbid:
Radwan Al Sa'd 73877/75854

PHARMACIES:
Amman:
Najroukh 23672
Al Salam 36730
Ruwaideh (—)
Jabal Al Hussein 38410
Al 'Ijjah 72068

Zargat:
Bilal (—)
Irbid:
Wardah 3353

TAXIS:
Al Khayyam 41541
Al Ahran 63911
Al Nahda 63006
Bashar 71329
Zeid 64476

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777

Haya Arts Centre 65195
Al Hussein Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555/843666

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club, Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club, Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club, Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club, Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fri. days and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed on Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Tel.

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh 37440
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman 24590
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein 66428

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal 101.4/101.8
Lebanese pound 71.7/72.4
Syrian pound 58.2/58.8
Iraqi dinar 659.1/665.1
Kuwaiti dinar 121.7/122.0
Egyptian pound 344/346.5
Qatari riyal 95/95.6

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 4:23
Sunrise 5:46
Dhuhr 11:46
Asr 3:10
Maghreb 5:45
Isha 7:08

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) 75111
Civil Defence rescue 61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency) 71125-6-7-8
Police headquarters 39141
Najdeb roving patrol rescue police. (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA) 92205/92206
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111

MARKET PRICES

Tomatoes 120
Eggplant (small) 220
Potatoes (imported) 140
Marrow (small) 180
Marrow (large) 130
Cucumber (small) 360
Cucumber (large) 280
Hot Green Pepper 760
Sweet Pepper 480
Cabbage 100
Onions (dry) 90
Green onions 140
Spinach 100
Coconut (piece) 330
Beans 500
Bananas 260
Bananas (Mukammar) 225
Peas 400
Garlic 600
Green Almonds 300
Potatoes (local) 170

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 4:23
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Police headquarters 39141
Najdeb roving patrol rescue police. (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA) 92205/92206
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111

MARKET PRICES

Broad Beans 160
Apples (Golden) 250
Apples (Double Red) 250
Apples (Starken) 250
Lemons 150
Oranges (Shamouti) 210
Oranges (local) 140
Oranges (Valencia) 110
Cauliflowers (white) 150
Parsley 240
Bomali 210
Carrot 160
Turnips 160
Grapefruit 120
Beef 140
Lenture (a head) 100
Mandarin oranges 300
Cauliflowers (local) 150
Radish 150
Sage 300
Chard 120
Coriander 320

SPORTS

PHILIPS
PACT
220
TELEPRINTER

Programmed
All-purpose
Communications
Terminal

INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNICATION
CENTRE

Tel. 39539 Telex 21672 ICC JO
P.O. Box 20539 - Amman

24 Hours service
Tel. 42539

Jordan to host Arab
basketball tourney

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar has approved a proposal that Jordan organise the next Arab Youth Basketball Championships in Al Hussein Youth City from June 20-30, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Sunday.

Arab Basketball Federation Championships Committee Chairman Ahmad Majbour, who was entrusted by the federation's board to contact Jordan on this matter, met on Saturday with Mr. Abu Nowar who welcomed the idea of Jordan's organising this competition, the paper added.

Mr. Abu Nowar has asked the Jordan Basketball Federation to make preliminary studies and arrangements for this tournament. Meanwhile Mr. Majbour, who is also the President of the Tunisia Basketball Federation, has invited Jordan to participate in the women basketball competition which will take place in Tunis during the summer.

French win Amman's
three-man team soccer meet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three-man football teams representing the German Club in Amman, the American Community School, and the British, French and Australian embassies to Jordan met in friendly matches Sunday at the Princess Alia Secondary School in Jabal Luweibdeh. The matches ended with the French team coming first, the German second, the American third and the British fourth. President of the German Club Kurt Saake presented medals to the best 10 players.

Despatch riders rush weekend
sports footage for television

COLOGNE (DaD) — Franz Gross, a 50-year-old despatch rider from Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, is on first-name terms with sporting records. Week after week he and his men rush reels of film from the sports ground to the studio for screening on TV. He rides a 99hp, 250kph bike on his weekend dash from one stadium to the next to get footage to the studio on time. Speed is essential; there is seldom time to spare between the final whistle and TV sports programme deadlines. Cologne and Frankfurt, say, are 200 kilometres apart. Gross covers the distance in about 50 minutes.

It all began about 20 years ago. "We tried everything to get reels to the studio," a TV executive recalls, "but Gross was even faster than a helicopter." Franz Gross has the advantage of being able to ride straight through to the cameraman. He also costs less, about 80 per cent less than a helicopter.

But he can no longer handle the business on his own. He set up a company some years ago and now heads a team of 25 despatch riders.

Zambia upsets Nigeria in African Cup

BENGHAZI, Libya (R) — An upset 3-0 victory by Zambia over Nigeria Saturday night sent the African Soccer Cup holders crashing out of this year's tournament at the end of the preliminary rounds.

Nigeria needed only a draw to join World Cup finalists Algeria from preliminary Group Two in the semifinals on Tuesday.

But a 25th minute goal from

Peter Kaumba put Zambia on the road to victory and further goals from Aaron Njovu and Willie Phiri put the game beyond doubt.

Earlier Algeria made sure of their place in the semifinals when they drew 0-0 with Ethiopia to finish on top of preliminary Group Two.

Zambia will meet Group One winners Libya in Tripoli in one semifinal while Algeria will play

Ghana here.

Nigeria's exit from the Cup was the tournament's second major shock following World Cup finalists Cameroon's failure to qualify from Group One.

Kaumba's early goal stunned the Nigerians who attacked in increasing desperation as they strived for the vital equalising goal.

But the Zambians, growing in confidence, repulsed the Nigerians and struck again nine minutes from time when Njovu slammed a cross-range shot past goalkeeper Peter Fregene.

Only a minute later Phiri wrapped up the scoring with a long shot from the left flank which Fregene failed to turn away.

Algeria were untroubled against bottom-of-the-table Ethiopia.

Poor Algerian finishing cost them any chance of a win, but with their semifinal place already assured the World Cup qualifiers were content to coast to a dull draw.

Veteran Emiel Puttemans
wins Rome marathon

ROME (R) — Veteran Belgian Emiel Puttemans outclassed a field of 40,000 runners to win the Rome international marathon in a fast time of two hours nine minutes 53 seconds Sunday.

Puttemans, winner of the silver medal behind Finn Lasse Viren in the 1972 Olympic 10,000 metres, finished more than two minutes ahead of Britain's Ian Thompson, the 1974 European champion with Karel Lismon, another Belgian, third.

Puttemans shook off a challenge from Thompson around the 24 kilometre mark and was never seriously threatened. Thompson finished in 2:12:09 with Lismon close behind in 2:12:36.

New Zealand maintains control
in 2nd test against Australia

AUCKLAND (A.P.) — Bruce Edgar's painstaking innings of 161—a record for his country against Australia—maintained New Zealand control of the second test at Eden Park here Sunday.

Although New Zealand's total of 387 fell a little short of Saturday's expectations, Australia will have to work hard to overcome a first innings deficit of 177 and prevent New Zealand's second test victory in 14 matches between the countries.

Statistically the Australian bowlers had the better of the third day, taking seven wickets for 146. It was certainly an improvement on their Saturday's efforts in which the only wicket to fall was to a dubious run-out decision.

Edgar, who had come in on Friday night and batted throughout Saturday, extended his innings until just before tea.

The vigil ended when he offered a return catch to off-spinner Bruce Yardley after eight and a half hours at the crease in which he had batted with eight separate partners.

It was easily the longest innings played by a New Zealand in a Trans-Tasman test, eclipsing Bevan Congdon's 131 in Wellington in 1974.

It was also Edgar's highest first class score and took him to within 13 runs of his 1000 in test cricket.

All of the Australians thought they were hard done by on umpiring decisions, none more so than the usually cheerful Yardley.

In the 43rd of his 56 overs Yardley snapped. Umpire Bruce Bricknell, standing in his first test, edged Yardley by turning down two appeals in three balls against Richard Hadlee. In the first of them Graeme Wood scooped up what the Australians were convinced was a half-past catch at short-leg.

When umpire Bricknell shook his head Yardley leapt up and down in rage in front of him.

Wood, still on the ground, hurled the ball back past the bowler in disgust.

Yardley shouted again for lbw against the last ball of the over, and when it went against him he snatched his sweater from umpire Bricknell's hands, stalked off towards the boundary, and then threw the sweater on the ground.

Greg Chappell realised that Yardley was endangering the reputation gained through a month of diplomacy and walked to the other end to speak to him. He had also spoken to Wood after he had thrown the ball.

Next over Yardley was up to his antics again when another lbw appeal went against him. This time Chappell stood at slip, hands on hips, glaring in Yardley's direction.

Australian team manager Alan Crompton said that no action would be taken over the incidents.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
1981 by Chicago Tribune

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 74
♥ 83
♦ Q965
♣ Q10864

EAST
♠ J9
♥ Q765
♦ A8
♣ K1072

WEST
♠ Q86
♥ A K J 10 4 2
♦ A 8
♣ 97

SOUTH
♠ A K 10 5 3 2
♥ 9
♦ J 4 3
♣ A K 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥
3 ♠ 4 ♥ Pass Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: King of ♥.

Do not reveal more of your assets than is necessary. You will be surprised how often a touch of confusion can lead your opponents astray.

South was somewhat unhappy that neither opponent doubled his four spade bid. That indicated that he was not running into a had break in his trump suit, so quite possibly he was taking a phantom sacrifice—if his side could take two spade tricks, four hearts was unlikely to succeed.

West started with the king and ace of hearts. Declarer

was not too sanguine at his prospects—he apparently had three red suit losers and a trump, and it looked as if the opponents would have had to lose at least four tricks as well. The only hope was that the defenders would misread the situation. Therefore, it would be fatal to allow either defender to signal to his partner where his strength lay.

To make sure that they could not get a message across to each other, declarer ruffed the second heart and led ace and a low trump. This had a two-fold purpose: since it was quite likely that both opponents would follow, neither would be able to signal; and there was a chance that the defenders would think that declarer did not hold the king of trumps, and that his strength was in the side suits.

West could not afford to go up with the queen of trumps lest his partner had started with a doubleton king. He played low, but when East won the jack of trumps he was in a difficult spot. It did not look right to lead a diamond away from the king with the queen in dummy, and a club looked no better. So East settled for the "safe" return of a heart. That was that.

Declarer ruffed, drew the last trump, then ran dummy's clubs. Five tricks in each black suit were all that declarer had contracted for. East's king of diamonds and West's ace shared the honors on the last trick.

Southampton keeps 2 point
advantage on top of League

LONDON (R) — Leaders Southampton suffered another jolt in their bid for the English League soccer title when they were held to a goalless draw by West Bromwich Saturday.

But Southampton, who crashed 2-0 to struggling Sunderland on Wednesday, stayed top despite the deadlock against a West Bromwich side who are 16th in the 22-team first division.

The leaders have 55 points from 31 games — two more than Swansea, who remained second with two matches in hand after a 0-0 home draw with Coventry.

Manchester United, without a fixture, are still third on 50 points, while Arsenal moved firmly into the championship battle with a 1-0 win over Ipswich.

Manchester City are level on 48 points with Liverpool but stay sixth with an inferior goal difference after a 1-1 draw against Nottingham Forest.

League Champions Aston Villa warmed up for next week's European Cup quarter-final clash against Dynamo Kiev of the Soviet Union when they beat Wolverhampton 2-1.

Birmingham gained their first victory under former Villa manager Ron Saunders when they toppled Stoke 2-1.

West Ham, one of the early-season pacemakers who have slipped to the middle of the table, beat Notts County 1-0 with a first half penalty by Ray Stewart.

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Tender no. 20/82

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MOUNTED ON VEHICLES

Amman Water and Sewerage Authority announces the availability of tender documents no. 20/82 for the supply of 15 water tankers mounted on vehicles. Tenderers must be from member countries of the World Bank, or Switzerland and Taiwan.

Tender documents are available from the Tender Section, Amman Water and Sewerage Authority, Jabal Hussein, Amman against a non-refundable fee of JD 50 for each copy.

Tenders shall be submitted to the secretary of the Tender Committee, Amman Water and Sewerage Authority, not later than 12 noon, April 27, 1982.

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WORLD

Interior minister fined for defaming Chirac

Court ruling against Defferre mars French local elections

PARIS (R) — France held local elections Sunday in a poll overshadowed by a court decision early Sunday morning against Interior Minister Gaston Defferre.

Hours before the first major test of the Socialists' popularity since they came to power last summer, Mr. Defferre was found guilty of defaming Jacques Chirac, president of the neo-Gaullist RPR party and effective leader of the opposition.

The minister was ordered to pay a nominal one franc (16 U.S. cents) in damages and fined 1,500 francs (\$250) for telling an election meeting in Marseilles that Mr. Chirac and two RPR colleagues had links with a murdered Corsican casino owner.

Even before Sunday's court ruling had highlighted the conflict between left and right, the national elections for more than 2,000 seats in departmental assemblies had taken on a new significance.

In the past they were among the least important of elections for the political parties. But the gov-

ernment's decentralisation law, shortly to take effect, will give local government increased responsibility by ending the system of control from Paris.

Candidates in Sunday's first round of voting must take 50 per cent of the vote to be elected outright and a second round next Sunday will decide those seats where there is no immediate winner.

The court decision against Mr. Defferre followed a protracted wrangle over whether the court was competent to hear the case. Mr. Defferre's counsel said government ministers should be tried by the high court of justice.

Mr. Defferre said later that he would appeal against the verdict. It was the second time in elections this year that a pre-poll legal ruling has distracted electors from the issue of how successful the government has been in carrying out its programme of radical reforms.

Two months ago, by-elections which were not expected to be a guide to the standing of the gov-

ernment were overshadowed by a ruling just a few hours before voting began that the Socialists' nationalisation bill was contrary to the constitution.

Opposition parties took all four seats at issue, three of which had been won by the left last June. However, Mr. Defferre pointed out at the time that the right had previously held all four continuously since 1958.

The increased significance of Sunday's elections is marked by the candidature in local hall of leading national figures, including Mr. Chirac, five government ministers and former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing is returning to the political scene for the first time since his election defeat at the hands of President Francois Mitterrand last May.

Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, who has described the elections as "unquestionably a political test," has called for a vote of confidence in the programme of radical reforms pledged in the general election.

Another Nkomo aide arrested

SALISBURY (R) — A member of parliament for opposition leader Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party has been arrested in connection with boards of illicit weapons found last month on party land, the Sunday Mail newspaper reported Sunday.

The pro-government newspaper said Akim Ndlovu was arrested last Wednesday under emergency powers regulations which allow for detention without trial for up to 30 days.

There was no official confirmation of Mr. Ndlovu's arrest. But informed sources said he had been picked up along with three other prominent men with ZAPU connections whose arrest was announced this week.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's office said the arrest of the three, who included the Zimbabwe army's deputy commander, was "in pursuance of current investigations into caching of arms."

Evidence may be heard in secret in South African mercenaries' trial

JOHANNESBURG (A.P.) — Some evidence in the hijacking trial of 43 mercenaries involved in an unsuccessful coup attempt in the Seychelles may be heard behind closed doors, newspapers said Sunday.

The trial at the Natal Province supreme court was adjourned early on Friday after a prosecution witness testified that one of the mercenary leaders told him seven or eight senior members of the South African government were

involved.

The 43 defendants pleaded innocent to four counts under the hijacking laws when the trial opened in Pietermaritzburg Wednesday. They are accused of hijacking an Air India flight at the Seychelles' Mahe Airport to escape to Durban, South Africa, when the coup attempt went away last Nov. 25.

Col. Jacob S. Mouton, security chief at the Durban Airport, testified that Peter Duffy, a 40-year-old Briton, told him of the

alleged government involvement during negotiations on the tarmac to end the hijacking. The group surrendered five hours after the plane landed and freed 65 passenger hostages as well as 14 crewmen aboard the flight, which had been scheduled to fly on to Bombay from the Seychelles.

The Sunday Express and the Sunday Times both quoted sources as saying at least part of the proceedings might be closed to the press and public.

The Sunday Times said expected applications for "in camera" proceedings had nothing to do with the scheduled cross-examination of Col. Mouton on Monday by defence lawyers. The Express did not specify which matters might be heard privately.

South Africa has repeatedly denied any involvement in the plot to topple the leftist government of President Albert Rene.

Spanish abortion trials to commence Tuesday

BILBAO, Spain (A.P.) — An abortion trial of 11 Spanish women that has sparked feminist demonstrations and sit-in across Catholic Spain will be held in this Basque city next Tuesday.

The trial against the 11 women accused of practising or having abortions in Spain was suspended two times, the first in October 1979 and the second a year ago both when two of the principal defendants failed to show up at court.

A group of about 150 feminists staged a sit-in Sunday at the Madrid bar while groups of women demonstrated in the northern Basque country against the trial.

The controversial trial involves nine working-class women who had abortions, one of them 13 years ago, the abortionist and her daughter.

The prosecution is asking prison terms of 55 and 60 years for the abortionist and her daughter and six-month terms for the nine women who underwent abortions, illegal in Spain.

The case brought widespread protest in 1979 with more than

1,300 Spanish women, including the nation's leading actresses, singers, journalists and doctors declaring they had undergone abortions.

Solidarity activists stage noisy opera house protest

WARSAW (R) — About 100 Solidarity activists caused uproar at Warsaw's Grand Opera House Saturday night when they staged a noisy protest against a singer whom they accused of collaboration with Poland's military rulers.

They said the demonstration was timed to mark the completion of three months of martial law under which the trade union and many civic rights were suspended.

The protesters interrupted a performance of Verdi's "Il Trovatore" by whistling, laughing, clapping and coughing when the singer, Leonard Mroz, came on stage shortly after the curtain went up.

Mr. Mroz, who performed at a gala Polish-Soviet friendship society concert in Warsaw last month, was playing the role Ferrando, the commander of a castle guard, in a story that revolves round the killing of a brother by a brother.

"There are about 100 of us spread through the theatre. This is a demonstration to mark three months of martial law," one of the protesters, sporting a Solidarity badge, told reporters.

Mr. Mroz appeared bewildered and flustered as other sectors of the audience joined in the clapping.

Mr. Mroz finally stumbled on his lines and conductor Aleksander Tracz put down his baton and stopped the orchestra.

Plainclothes security guards leapt to their feet in various parts of the theatre but appeared to make no arrests.

The opera started again after several minutes but coughing, laughing and other signs of disapproval continued for the rest of the performance.

Though small in itself, Saturday night's protest indicated a continued deep anger against martial law and demonstrated the lengths to which Poles will go to devise protests against it.

Many actors, artists and other cultural workers have agreed to an effective boycott of state television and other official functions because of martial law.

Official urges U.S.-USSR-Cuba talks on Salvador

NEW YORK (R) — A senior administration official was quoted by the New York Times Sunday as saying talks were needed between the United States, Soviet Union, Cuba and other Latin American countries to solve the El Salvador problem.

In a Washington-dated report, the Times quoted the official, who declined to be identified, as saying: "We have to talk to the Russians. There are discussions

that must be held."

The official said political, economic and security steps had to be taken which would influence thinking in Moscow, Cuba and Nicaragua.

"It is a very complex mosaic of interrelated actions which must be consistent, credible and hopefully will ultimately bring a successful outcome," he added.

The report was published on the eve of renewed talks in New York

between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda on Mexico's proposals for greater contacts with Nicaragua and Cuba over El Salvador.

The United States has accused both countries of supplying arms to leftist guerrillas fighting the U.S.-backed Salvadoran junta.

The U.S. official said the Reagan administration was determined to avoid the mistakes of Vietnam, which he said was treated as though it were just a local problem.

He said the Reagan policy was to avoid such a trap and to treat El Salvador as a global problem.

"This means we have to harness, and we have, the full panoply of the political, economic and security assets of the United States to deal with this problem in Moscow, in Havana, in the regional context, the Organisation of American States, and in Salvador itself," he said.

In another report, the New York Times said President Reagan had approved clandestine operations by the Central Intelligence Agency against what the administration describes as Cuban arms supply lines in Central America.

The Times quoted administration officials and congressional sources as saying some covert actions had already begun, such as providing millions of dollars to progressive and left-of-centre groups and individuals in several countries.

Others, such as a paramilitary operation against alleged arms supply routes from Nicaragua to El Salvador, were still being discussed with friendly Latin American governments, the report quoted officials as saying.

Polls predict election setback for Roy Jenkins

LONDON (A.P.) — Roy Jenkins, former president of the European Common Market, will lose his bid to re-enter the House of Commons in a special election (by-election) in Glasgow next week, two opinion polls predicted Sunday.

Defeat in the Scottish seat could end Mr. Jenkins' efforts to become leader of the new centrist alliance between the fledgling Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the old-established Liberals.

Mr. Jenkins must have a House of Commons seat to be a credible British political leader. He is the

only one of the four SDP founders outside the house, having abandoned it in 1976 to take the European post. All four are breakaways from the Labour Party.

A national opinion poll survey for the Sunday Observer IV Glasgow's Hillhead electoral district, which votes March 23, found Mr. Jenkins trailing third with only 23 per cent support, behind Labourite David Wiseman with 33 per cent and Conservative Gerry Malone, 30 per cent.

The remaining 14 per cent split between other candidates and

undecideds.

A poll for the Scottish Sunday Standard newspaper and the British Broadcasting Corp. found Mr. Malone ahead with 30 per cent support, Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wiseman level with 27 per cent each and the remainder split among others.

Mr. Jenkins told a reporter: "I never comment on polls."

Pollsters reported being told by some Hillhead voters that they did not find Mr. Jenkins a very attractive candidate — "a carpet-bagger from England and a Welshman to boot," one said.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Clashes reported in North Yemen

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Armed clashes broke out last week in scattered regions of North Yemen between the dissident National Democratic Front and government forces, the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Sayassah reported Sunday. In a dispatch from Sanaa, the North Yemeni capital, the paper said the fighting was spreading from the central province of North Yemen to other regions near the capital.

Iraq expects POW visits soon

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq expects that families of Gulf war prisoners will soon be exchanging visits, the Iraqi News Agency INA said Saturday night. Iraq and Iran agreed in January to allow visits by families of prisoners captured in the 18-month-old conflict. INA quoted a foreign ministry spokesman as saying Iraq had received the Iranian reply to Baghdad's proposals for organising visits. The spokesman said he hoped the exchange visits would take place shortly, with Kuwait and Ankara, serving as stopover points for the families. The spokesman gave no details of Iran's reply.

U.K. to release warship to Iran

LONDON (R) — Britain is prepared to release to Iran a warship, ordered by the late Shah, as part of moves to improve relations with Tehran, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper said. The British government had asked for an assurance that the £45-million (\$85-million) auxiliary vessel Kharg would not be used in action against Iraq, the paper said in Sunday's edition. Britain had also sought permission to remove a light gun from deck mountings on the 20,000-ton ship, it said. The Sunday Telegraph said the British government refused to sanction supply of guns or ammunition to Iran but was prepared to deliver spares for scores of British-built Chieftain tanks.

Saudi palace collapse kills 47

RIYADH (A.P.) — Forty-seven persons were killed in a palace collapse in the Saudi city of Taif, near Mecca, press reports said Sunday. The newspaper Al-Riyadh said the incident occurred during a crowded wedding ceremony for a Yemeni couple at Kasr Al-Afrah (Palace of Joys), with more than 500 guests attending. Number of injured was not given, but the paper said they will be given 20,000 riyals (\$5,847) each and treated in London at the Saudi government expense. Families of the dead were given 50,000 riyals (\$14,618) each by a decree from King Khaled, the paper said. Cause of the incident is being investigated by a special committee, the paper said without elaboration.

Lambsdorff meets Mubarak in Cairo

CAIRO (A.P.) — The West German Economic Minister Otto Lambsdorff met with President Hosni Mubarak Sunday and afterwards said he hoped for increased economic cooperation between Germany and Egypt, the government news agency said. The German minister told reporters in front of Uruba Palace that Egypt's needs had first priority in the German aid programme, and that private and joint-venture investment projects would be increased, the agency said.

Numeiri sends note to Egyptian leader

CAIRO (A.P.) — Sudanese presidential envoy met with President Hosni Mubarak Sunday and presented him a letter from Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri, the government news agency said. Envoy Mansour Suleiman told reporters that this letter was part of the two presidents' continuous exchange of points of view on mutual interests, which would lead to complete integration between the two countries, the agency said.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Bomb damages London ANC office

LONDON (A.P.) — A bomb did extensive damage Sunday morning to the London offices of the African National Congress (ANC), the South African anti-apartheid guerrilla group banned by the Pretoria government. An ANC volunteer worker cut his foot stepping on broken glass, but there were no other injuries, police reported. The blast came three hours before a scheduled noon-time rally in London's Hyde Park to protest South Africa's policy of racial separation. ANC President Oliver Tambo was among those who were to speak. The bomb appeared to have been placed at the back of the ANC offices in the city's King's Cross district. It scattered glass, bricks and other debris for 400 metres and damaged neighbouring storefronts. The ANC, committed to overthrowing the white-minority government in South Africa, recently celebrated its 70th anniversary. Last month, the organisation's flags were unfurled in central Johannesburg for the first time in 22 years when a multi-racial crowd of about 3,000 marched to the funeral of a white union leader who died in police custody.

Soviet defence minister leaves for India

MOSCOW (A.P.) — Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov and high-ranking Soviet military leaders left Sunday on an official visit to India, the Soviet news agency TASS reported. Mr. Ustinov was accompanied on the trip by Pavel S. Kutakhov, commander of Soviet air forces, Sergei G. Gorskikh, commander of Soviet naval forces, and three other lower-ranking military officials. TASS said, Indian officials said previously that no new agreements are expected to be signed during the five-day visit to New Delhi.

Pakistan envoy denies nuclear arms plans

NEW DELHI (R) — Pakistan's ambassador to India denied today that his country had any intention of producing nuclear weapons, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported. In a speech in the southern Indian city of Bangalore, Ambassador Abdul Sattar referred to widespread press reports that Pakistan was following a nuclear arms programme. But he said: "We have neither the intention nor the resources to do so. This is speculation and propaganda carried by countries which possess the most destructive arsenal in the world."

Williams asks for black killings retrial

ATLANTA (R) — Lawyers for convicted murderer Wayne Williams have asked the judge to overturn the verdict and order a new trial for the man found guilty of killing two of 28 young blacks whose deaths terrorised Atlanta's black community. His lawyer said the appeals process would begin on Monday when the judge returns from a week's holiday. The local county Sheriff has said Mr. Williams is expected to remain in the county jail for at least six weeks before the appeals process is exhausted. Mr. Williams, 23, a freelance photographer and music promoter, was found guilty last month and sentenced to two life terms for the murders.

Ethiopian hopes clash with realities in Eritrea

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

NAIROBI — Ethiopia's Marxist military rulers have committed half their Soviet-equipped armed forces, the highest in black Africa, to what they see as the final government offensive in a 21-year war of secession in Eritrea.

The government in Addis Ababa, a close ally of the Soviet Union, has given no indication of the size of the force involved in the latest attempt to crush guerrillas fighting for the independence of the strategic Red Sea province of Eritrea.

But Western military experts estimate that at least 120,000 troops (out of a total of 240,000) have been deployed in Eritrea and neighbouring Tigre Province, where a separate guerrilla movement is fighting the government.

Ethiopia's soldiers are backed by tanks, artillery, fighter-bombers and helicopter gunships of the type used by the Soviets in Afghanistan. "The government's firepower is impressive," said one diplomat familiar with developments in the volatile Horn of Africa. "But firepower alone doesn't win wars."

The government drive is by far the highest military effort to pacify Ethiopia's unruly north since the first shots were fired in Eritrea in September, 1961.

On Feb. 1, a policy document adopted by a meeting chaired by Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam vowed to "mobilise forces for the total and final destruction of remaining secessionist strongholds (and...) search and destroy supporters and sympathisers of the secessionist movements."

Third World diplomats in Addis Ababa said that Lt. Col. Mengistu had gambled his prestige on the success of the offensive by firmly committing himself to the destruction of the rebels.

Past efforts to bring the warring sides to the negotiating table have

involved parties as diverse as Sudanese President Jafar Numeiri and Cuban leader Fidel Castro. Neither was able to bridge the vast gulf between the rebels and the government.

The guerrillas say that the former Italian colony of Eritrea — with some 1,000 kilometres of coastline on the Red Sea — was illegally annexed by the late Emperor Haile Selassie.

The Ethiopians have rejected demands for Eritrean independence because they fear that the secession of the province would signal the collapse of an empire made up of a bewildering array of rival ethnic groups and tribes.

Offensives and counters

Reports from the Eritrean battle fronts have been sketchy but Western military experts say the rebels appear to be under greater pressure than at any time since young leftist officers overthrew Haile Selassie in 1974 and perpetuated his Eritrean policy.

Announcing the offensive, the Ethiopian government said it had

launched a parallel campaign to rebuild the war-shattered province. "It seems to be a matter of first killing the fighters and then trying to smother Eritrean nationalism under a pile of banknotes," said an Arab envoy in Nairobi.

Western diplomats in the Ethiopian capital say that the government has stopped a number of development projects in Ethiopia, one of the world's ten poorest countries, and diverted funds to Eritrea to show that it means business in pushing what is known as the "Red Star Development Campaign."

According to a spate of communiques issued by the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF), the most effective of the guerrilla groups, thousands of Ethiopian troops have been killed in the rugged Eritrean highlands and the sun-baked savannahs of the western plains along the border with Sudan.

The accounts are considered vastly exaggerated by military experts but propaganda has not been restricted to the rebel side.

The official Ethiopian news agency reported that the secessionists had been "effectively smashed" weeks before the offensive even began.

Who wins where?

Similar statements have been issued repeatedly in the past, but the guerrillas fought on in Africa's longest war.

Guerrilla strength has been sapped, however, by weeks of fighting last year between the EPLF and the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council (ELF-RC). Some 4,000 ELF-RC fighters were chased out of their strongholds in the lowlands and driven across the border into the Sudan.

Late in February, Ethiopia said the government offensive was progressing according to plan and added: "Victory against the anti-people and anti-unity elements and the task of restoring normality in the troubled Eritrea region will not be far away."

No time frame was given but African diplomats said the Eth-



Young Eritrean commando in training